

**THE EAST KENT (No. 1)**

**UNITED DISTRICT.**

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# Annual Report

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

# 1925

BY

**A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.**

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PRINTERS :

"THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S MAIL,"

THE BROADWAY, BROADSTAIRS.



THE EAST KENT (No. 1)  
UNITED DISTRICT.

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THE BROADWAY, BROADSTAIRS.

Pierremont Hall,

Broadstairs.

30th April, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Joint Committee of the East Kent (No. 1) United District.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Sixth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the United District for the year 1925, which I have compiled in accordance with Circular 648 of the Ministry of Health, dated 10th December, 1925.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. M. WATTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

# THE EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT.

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## JOINT COMMITTEE.

### *Blean Rural District Council.*

ALLINGTON COLLARD, J.P.

A. RIGDEN.

### *Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council.*

F. FOSTER.

J. A. FORDE, J.P.

H. BING.

### *Herne Bay Urban District Council.*

P. E. IGGULDEN, J.P. (*Chairman*).

N. ROWDEN, Junr.

### *Isle of Thanet Rural District Council.*

W. F. LONGRIGG, J.P.

T. H. JARMAN.

W. LOVEDAY.

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Clerk: E. F. OWEN,

Council Offices,

Pierremont Hall,

BROADSTAIRS.

## STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health* (who is also School Medical Inspector appointed by the Kent Education Committee) :

A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### SANITARY INSPECTORS :

BLEAN R.D.—

R. Miles, “ Maybush,” Eddington, nr. Herne Bay.

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER’S U.D.—

John Dain, Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs.

HERNE BAY U.D.—

H. J. Norris, Westminster Bank Chambers, Herne Bay.

ISLE OF THANET R.D.—

E. Richardson, Station Road, Birchington.

Mr. Dain and Mr. Richardson hold the Meat Inspector’s Certificate.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

THE EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT was formed by an Order of the Minister of Health, dated 26th May, 1920, and consists of the following districts :

*The Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter’s;*  
*The Urban District of Herne Bay;*  
*The Rural District of the Isle of Thanet;*  
*The Rural District of Blean.*

The United District is situated at the north-east corner of East Kent, and is about 18 miles in length, with an average width of about four miles.

It is bounded on the north by the Borough of Margate, the Urban District of Whitstable, and by the sea; on the south by the Borough of Ramsgate, the City of Canterbury, the river Stour and adjacent marshes; on the west by the Faversham Rural District.

The area of the four districts is as follows :—

	Including Inland Water.	Excluding Water.
Broadstairs and St. Peter’s U.D. ...	2,770	2,767
Herne Bay U.D. ...	887	887
Isle of Thanet R.D. ...	18,639	18,473
Blean R.D. ...	26,882	26,865
	<hr/> 49,178	<hr/> 48,992

The population of the four districts :—

	Census 1921.	Census 1911.
Broadstairs and St. Peter’s U.D. ...	15,471	9,921 (corrected)
Herne Bay U.D. ...	11,872	7,780
Isle of Thanet R.D. ...	14,085	10,564 (corrected)
Blean R.D. ...	8,682	7,597
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total population for United District ...	50,110	35,862

The United District rises to its highest points at its two ends. In the parish of Blean at the western end it reaches a height of 263 feet, and at a point above the village of Minster at the eastern end the height above sea level is 178 feet. From these two points the land slopes gradually to the marshes which divide the district roughly into two equal parts and extend from Reculver to Sarre. This is the site of the estuary of the Thames, formerly called the Wantsum, which separated the Isle of Thanet from the mainland, and was guarded by two Roman fortresses, Reculver at the northern entrance and Richborough at the southern. The Isle of Thanet Rural District consists largely of arable land which has been noted as a corn-growing district since the days of the Romans. In the Blean Rural District there is a considerable acreage of woodland and grass, as well as arable land.

The geological formation of the soil in the Isle of Thanet Rural District and the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District is "chalk-marl," "Gault clay," and "lower green sand." In the Blean and Herne Bay Districts, "London clay" and "Thanet beds" are found, and in the marshes "modern alluvium."

The summer population of Herne Bay and Broadstairs may be estimated at three times the winter population. The population of the Rural Districts of the Isle of Thanet and Blean is also increased during the summer months by the advent of visitors from London and elsewhere.

Figures given by the Registrar-General for the population of the four districts composing the East Kent (No. 1) United District which are to be used by the Medical Officer of Health in the preparation of his Annual Report:—

Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...	11,280
Herne Bay U.D.	... ..	10,440
Isle of Thanet R.D.	... ..	13,200 (for Birth Rate)
"	"	11,980 (for Death Rate)
Blean R.D.	... ..	8,770

A large percentage of the inhabitants of the four districts may be described as private residents. This is particularly the case in Broadstairs, in Westgate and Birchington in the Thanet Rural District, in Beltinge in the Blean Rural District, and in Herne Bay, and in these towns also a large number of visitors are received, particularly during the summer and for whose accommodation there are many boarding-houses, lodging-houses and hotels. Many convalescent homes are situated in the towns on the coast, Broadstairs having 12, in which about 888 beds are provided. In Herne Bay is a large convalescent home belonging to the Metropolitan Asylums Board with 145 beds, and at Beltinge are two large convalescent homes for adult males. Many private boarding schools for both girls and boys are situated in the United District, particularly in Broadstairs. In addition to the visitors who come to the districts to the hotels, etc., many parties composed of Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Cadets, etc., who usually come from London, camp out in the fields near the sea coast in the summer time.

In the two Rural Districts a large proportion of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the Blean Rural District there is also a colliery situated in the parish of Chislet, where some 700 men are employed. In the Thanet Rural District is situated the Manston School of Technical Training of the Royal Air Force, where usually some 2,000 officers and men are stationed, and also the "Mystery Port" of Richborough.

In both Broadstairs and Herne Bay there are some men who are employed in the fishing industry and others are engaged with boats, while others are builders and general labourers, and there are employees in the gas works and electric lighting works, on the Southern Railway, etc., and many who work in the hotels, boarding-houses and lodging-houses.

As far as the public health is concerned, the influx of visitors at all times of the year, particularly in the summer time, naturally is likely to be accompanied by the introduction of infectious disease, and the fact that parties of children come down to the convalescent homes from London and other parts at frequent intervals also tends to cause outbreaks. Every precaution is taken by the medical practitioners in charge of the convalescent homes, by means of examination on arrival, and isolation, to prevent any spread of infectious disease, and in several institutions patients are not received unless they have been previously reported free of infection after throat "swabs" have been taken in London and elsewhere.

Owing to the fact that the number of beds in the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital, which receives patients from the Broadstairs and the Isle of Thanet districts, is limited, most of the convalescent homes are provided with their own sanatoria in which they can isolate cases of non-notifiable disease and also patients in whom the diagnosis is doubtful. In the event of a convalescent home having a large number of patients suffering from one of the notifiable diseases the authorities are obliged to make their own arrangements for dealing with the outbreak, for, as explained above, the Joint Hospital Board can only admit a few patients from a convalescent home or private school or other institution, as the accommodation at the hospital would otherwise be very soon exhausted. It is a matter for congratulation that during the past five years the number of cases of infectious disease which have been introduced into the four districts by visitors and patients coming to convalescent homes has been comparatively small. Every effort is made to deal promptly and thoroughly with any outbreak which occurs, and co-operation between the Medical Officer of Health and the Medical Officers of the convalescent homes, private schools and other institutions is aimed at.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

##### *Number of Deaths—*

Male	...	...	...	...	213
Female	...	...	...	...	263
Total	...	...	...	...	476

##### *Death Rate from all causes per 1,000 of the population—*

United District,	England and Wales.
11.2	12.2

##### *Number of Births—*

Male	...	...	...	...	257
Female	...	...	...	...	248
Total	...	...	...	...	505

##### *Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—*

United District.	England and Wales.
11.55	18.3

*Deaths of Infants under one year of age—*

Male	...	...	...	...	15
Female	...	...	...	...	18
Total	...	...	...	...	33

*Infant Mortality Rate (Total deaths under one year of age per 1,000 registered births)—*

United District.  
65

England and Wales.  
75

		Broadstairs & St. Peter's U.D.	Herne Bay U.D.	Isle of Thanet R.D.	Blean R.D.
Census, 1921. Taken 19th June.	...	15,471	11,872	14,085	8,682
Population estimated by Registrar General.					
Middle of 1921	...	11,130	10,130	12,020 (for B.R.) 11,329 (for D.R.)	8,280
Middle of 1922	...	11,070	10,080	12,110 (for B.R.) 11,420 (for D.R.)	8,296
Middle of 1923	...	11,090	10,100	12,220 (for B.R.) 11,530 (for D.R.)	8,278
Middle of 1924	...	11,320	10,190	13,560 (for B.R.) 11,950 (for D.R.)	8,728
Middle of 1925	...	11,280	10,440	13,200 (for B.R.) 11,980 (for D.R.)	8,770

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	64	49	—
Diphtheria	24	18	—
Enteric (including Paratyphoid)	24	1	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—
Pneumonia	58	3	14
Erysipelas	17	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	6	1	3
Measles	4	—	—
German Measles	3	—	—
Chicken Pox...	141	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	2	1	—
Total	344	74	17

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..				1				
1 ... ..			2	7			1	
5 ... ..	1		5	8				
10 ... ..	2	1	4	5				1
15 ... ..	1	4	1		1	3		1
20 ... ..	2	10		1	1	1		
25 ... ..	9	11	1	1	8	3		
35 ... ..	9	10		1	3	4		
45 ... ..	5	5		1	1	1		
55 ... ..	4	2			3	3		1
65 and upwards	2	2			1	1		1
Total ... ..	35	45	13	25	18	16	1	4

## NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING PREVIOUS YEARS.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1921 ... ..	32	44	20	17
1922 ... ..	39	41	12	7
1923 ... ..	31	42	10	12
1924 ... ..	37	54	9	13

*GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.*

## ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED IN THE UNITED DISTRICT BY THE POOR LAW GUARDIANS

There are two Poor Law Institutions, one provided by the Isle of Thanet Board of Guardians, situated at Minster, and the other provided by the Blean Board of Guardians, and situated at Herne Common. In addition, there are Cottage Homes provided by the Guardians of the Isle of Thanet Union, and situated at Manston, near Ramsgate.

The Minster Institution, which has 576 beds, admits persons from the whole of the Isle of Thanet Union, including the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate, while the Blean Institution receives persons from the Blean Union, which comprises Herne Bay, U.D. Whitstable U.D. and Blean R.D. and contains 76 beds.

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION IN THE UNITED DISTRICT.

There is only one Voluntary Hospital situated in the United District for dealing with ordinary cases of illness and that is the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital at Herne Bay, which contains 14 beds.

Many patients from the district attend the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, which contains 116 beds, and some are treated in the Margate Cottage Hospital, containing 31 beds, and others in the Ramsgate General Hospital, which has 52 beds and cots, while patients suffering from diseases of the Ear, Eye, Nose or Throat receive treatment at the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.

As regards the number of beds provided in the general hospitals available for the use of the inhabitants of the united district an extension of the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital at Herne Bay took place in the year 1923 with the result that the number of beds was increased from 11 to 14 and the whole staff housed on the premises. In the year 1925 a new children's ward was completed in connection with the Ramsgate General Hospital giving accommodation for 12 children and forming a war memorial. The governors of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital are providing a convalescent home at Whitstable which is being erected in connection with a cottage hospital at Whitstable and will provide 10 beds for convalescent patients. A site for a new hospital in Canterbury consisting of 8 and 2/3 acres near the South Canterbury railway station, has been purchased for the sum of £2,500. A regional hospital conference was held at Canterbury on October 14th, 1925, and January 13th, 1926, attended by representatives of 10 hospitals in Kent, in order to discuss the possibility of co-operation in the collection and distribution of funds and of utilising more effectively the specialised services of each hospital.

As regards the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, the average number of beds occupied during the year was 86.89. The number of in-patients treated was 1520 as against 1502 for the previous year. The expenditure of the hospital for the year was £15,290 and the receipts £15,000.

The nursing of the poor in their own homes by District Nurses in the United District is fairly satisfactorily provided for, the last nursing association to be formed being one at Minster where the nurse commenced duty in September 1923. It may be mentioned however that neither Broadstairs, Westgate or Birchington are provided with District Nurses.

## ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

### *Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.—Isle of Thanet R.D.*

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the above-named districts are admitted to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital, as are also cases from the Boroughs of Ramsgate and Margate.

The Hospital is managed by a Joint Hospital Board composed of delegates from the four authorities concerned, numbering 23. The Mayors of the two Boroughs and the Chairmen of the two District Councils being ex-officio members of the Hospital Board.

The building is constructed of brick, and is suitably situated at Haine in the Isle of Thanet R.D. about two miles equally distant from Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs. It has gas and water laid on from Broadstairs, and is connected with the Ramsgate sewerage system. A supply of water is also obtained from a deep well in the grounds. It stands on about ten acres of land, but there are four acres of land adjoining which have been

purchased by the Board and would be available if it were necessary to increase the size of the hospital. On this land is situated a bungalow, in which the Medical Superintendent lives. There is accommodation in the hospital for about 100 patients.

A Smallpox Hospital, consisting of a corrugated iron building, containing 16 beds, allowing about 2,000 cubic feet per bed, is provided for the whole of the Isle of Thanet, and managed by the Joint Hospital Board. It is in close proximity to the Isolation Hospital, from which it is separated by the railway line, and is situated in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District. This hospital is under the supervision of the same Medical Superintendent.

#### HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the above-named district, if they be Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever, are admitted to a small building in Sea Street, consisting of two cottages. This hospital has been in existence for more than thirty years, and accommodates four patients. Cases of infectious disease are also sent from the Herne Bay Urban District to the Isolation Hospital of the Blean Rural District under an agreement whereby patients are received on payment of 12s. per head per day.

#### BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the Blean Rural District are treated in the Council's Isolation Hospital, situated about one mile from Herne Bay. The hospital, which is built of brick, is in an isolated position, and is erected on a piece of land about three acres in extent. There is accommodation for about 16 patients in three separate ward blocks. Some cases of infectious disease are admitted from the Herne Bay Urban District and some from Whitstable Urban District.

There is a Smallpox Hospital situated in the Blean Rural District, near the boundary of the Herne Bay Urban District, and built in the year 1902 by the Council of the latter district, which provides accommodation for cases of this disease occurring in either district. The building is constructed of wood and corrugated iron.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

There is no institution in the United District for the residential treatment of cases of Tuberculosis provided by local authorities or the County Council, but there is a sanatorium provided by the County Council at Lenham, in Mid-Kent. The Passmore Edwards Convalescent Home at Cranbrook has been purchased by the County Council and 26 beds are available there for the treatment of young adult men, women and children suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. In addition, the County Council have entered into agreements with the Sevenoaks Urban District Council and the Dover Town Council for the use of eight and ten beds respectively at the Isolation Hospitals controlled by these authorities. The number of beds in the County Sanatorium is 165. Accommodation for cases occurring in the county is also available in various hospitals and institutions in addition to those mentioned above.

#### MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital subsidised by the local authority or the County Council in the United District, but arrangements have been made by the County Council with various hospitals and homes for the reception of complicated maternity cases or where the home conditions of the patients are unsuitable. Among these are the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and the Maternity Hostel, Canterbury.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

## (A) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

The Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board possesses a motor ambulance which is housed at the hospital, and in it patients are removed from the Isle of Thanet Rural District, Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, and also from the boroughs of Ramsgate and Margate. This was provided in the year 1921.

The Herne Bay Urban District Council has a horse ambulance, in which patients are removed to the Council's hospital at Sea Street. This was purchased in the year 1921.

The Blean Rural District Council has an ambulance mounted on a motor lorry in which patients are removed to the Council's hospital. Arrangements were made for the use of the motor lorry in the year 1921.

## (B) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.

*The Isle of Thanet Rural District.*—A motor ambulance is stationed at Birchington for the removal of patients to hospital from the Rural District. It is supplied by the British Red Cross and the Order of St. John; is in charge of the local Ambulance Corps, and 28 cases were removed in it during the year 1925.

A motor ambulance which has been provided by the Westgate-on-Sea Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was dedicated for use in June, and will, no doubt, be of great use.

*Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.*—During the year 142 cases were removed by the motor ambulance, which is on loan from the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and is in the custody of the local Ambulance Corps. The work done by the corps is entirely voluntary, and all sums received are applied to the maintenance of the motor ambulance and the general expenses of the corps. This ambulance was provided in the year 1921.

*Herne Bay Urban District.*—A division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade having been formed, a motor ambulance was obtained and was dedicated on the 23rd August, and will, no doubt, supply a long-felt want.

The Kent and Canterbury Hospital has a motor ambulance in which patients are removed to the hospital from the surrounding districts. This was purchased in the year 1924.

## CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Three centres are in existence, one, a voluntary one, in Broadstairs, and two carried on by the County Council, one at Herne Bay, and one in the village of Herne. The Broadstairs Centre is called the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club and provides all the accommodation necessary for an efficient Infant Welfare Centre. Arrangements have been made for certain rooms in the building to be used by the Kent Education Committee for the purpose of a School Clinic. The Health Visitor, Mrs. Morris, who is superintendent, resides here. A small Children's Ward has been opened for the reception of cases which require special attention. The committee have engaged the services of a trained Nurse and qualified Midwife, who also resides at the Mothercraft Club. A Medical Practitioner attends once a fortnight, and weekly lectures are given. For the year ending March 31st, 1925, the attendances were :—

Attendances.			Average Weekly Attendance.		
Women	...	1,972	Women	...	40-50
Children	...	880	Children	...	22
Infants	...	840	Infants	...	21

The Infant Welfare Centre at Herne Bay is held at the Parochial Institute, which provides excellent accommodation, one afternoon a week. One of the local medical practitioners attends to give advice to the mothers once a week, and a lecture is given by him once a month and instruction is given by the Health Visitor. The attendances of children at the centre during the four quarters of the year were 588, 526, 534 and 620.

As at the Broadstairs Centre, tea is provided for those who attend, and dried milk, Virol, etc., is supplied at cost price. At the Church Institute in the village of Herne a centre was opened on the 18th August. The Doctor and Health Visitor attend once a fortnight, the former gives a lecture once a month. The centre is carried on in the same way as the one at Herne Bay. A Thrift Club is in existence at all three centres.

To show the progress which has taken place in connection with the Infant Welfare Work in the United District during the past five years the following facts may be given. The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club was started in October, 1915, and was held for some years at 12, The Broadway, but since October, 1923, the committee have been in possession of Beaconsfield Villa, St. Peter's Road. The Infant Welfare Centre at Herne Bay was organised by the District Nursing Association and was started in July, 1920.

At the Broadstairs Centre in the year 1921 the attendances were: Women, 1,711; children, 699; infants, 749. In the year 1925: Women, 1,972; children, 880; infants, 840.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The following is a list of the Dispensaries which are available for the inhabitants of the United District:—

Address.	Day and Time of Attending.
<i>Canterbury</i> , 11, Longport Street	Friday, 10 a.m.-12 noon, and 1.15 p.m.-2.30 p.m.
<i>Faversham</i> , 2, Albion Terrace ..	Tuesday, 1 p.m.
<i>Herne Bay</i> , 16, High Street ...	1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 12 noon.
<i>Ramsgate</i> , Charlotte Cottage, Market Place	Wednesday, 1.30 p.m.
<i>Margate</i> , Eaton House, St. Peter's Road	Friday, 2 p.m.

Tuberculosis officers and nurses attend at the dispensaries, and the latter also visit patients in their own homes.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

The County Medical Officer is responsible for the arrangements made for the treatment of cases of Venereal Disease by the County Council, and clinics approved by the Minister of Health, which are available for the inhabitants of the United District, have been provided as follows:—

Kent and Canterbury	Men	Tuesday, 6 p.m.
Hospital	Women	Thursday, 6 p.m.
2, Albion Terrace	Men	Thursday, 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Faversham.	Women	Thursday, 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Eaton House, St.	Men	Wednesday, 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Peter's Rd., Margate	Women	Wednesday, 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

## DISTRICT NURSING.

## BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

The Parish of St. Peter-in-Thamet has an arrangement with a local nursing institute for the supply of a nurse to act as a district nurse in the parish. She also acts as part-time nurse for St. Peter's Church of England and Reading Street Schools. There is no district nurse for the parish of Broadstairs, but the provision of one is contemplated. It is thought that the nurse employed in the parish of St. Peter might work in the parish of Broadstairs as well.

## THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

*Monkton, St. Nicholas-at-Wade and Sarre.*

There is a District Nurse who lives at Monkton and works under the auspices of a local association which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. The local association was started in the year 1920.

*Minster.*

There is a Nursing Association in existence in the village which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. The nurse commenced duty on the 22nd September, 1923.

## HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

The District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, provides a District (Queen's) Nurse. The number of visits paid during the year was 2,742. The financial statement showed that there was a credit balance of £165 4s. 11d.

## BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

*Chislet, Hoath and Reculver.*

There is a District Nurse working under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

*Sturry.*

A District Nurse works in the parishes of Sturry, Fordwich and Westbere under the auspices of a nursing association affiliated to the County Association. The local association was started in the year 1921.

*Blean.*

A District Nurse employed by a local association which is affiliated with the County Nursing Association works in the parishes of Harbledown, Blean and St. Stephen's.

## NURSING INSTITUTIONS.

There are several private nursing institutes in Broadstairs, St. Peter's, Westgate, Birchington and Herne Bay, and the following Sanatoria and Residential Institutions approved by the Minister of Health for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, are situated in the United District :

The St. Nicholas Branch of the Cheyne Hospital for Children, near Birchington (for " surgical " cases only).

" Bishopsbourne " Invalid Home, Broadstairs (for intermediate and afebrile cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adult males only).

The Old Manor House, Crow Hill, Broadstairs (adult females only).

St. Anne's Convalescent Home, Herne Bay (part of) (for non-pulmonary cases in children).

Tait Home (St. Peter's Convalescent Home), Broadstairs (for surgical cases, females over 14 years of age only).

### MIDWIVES

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District there are six practising.

In the Thanet Rural District there are two Midwives practising at Westgate-on-Sea, and the District Nurses who live at Monkton and Minster are also Midwives.

In the Herne Bay Urban District there are two Midwives practising.

In the Blean Rural District there is a Midwife practising at Broomfield, and the three District Nurses at Sturry, Blean and Chislet are also Midwives.

### SCHOOL NURSING.

The following Nurses carry out the work of school nursing :—

Broadstairs U.D. ... ..	Mrs. Morris
Parish of St. Peter-in-Thanet ... ..	Nurse Sears
Herne Bay U.D. and the parishes of Swalecliffe, Herne and Sturry in the Blean R.D.	Mrs. Stokes
Parishes of St. Dunstons Without and Westbere in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Miss Worthington.
Parishes of Chislet, Hoath and Reculver in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Nurse May (District Nurse)
Parishes of Hackington and Blean in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Nurse Marden (District Nurse)
Parishes of Sarre, St. Nicholas, Birchington, Westgate, Acol, Garlinge and St. Lawrence in the Thanet R.D. ... ..	Nurse Tustain
Parishes of Minster, Monkton, and Stonar in the Thanet R.D. ... ..	Nurse Cheesman.
Whitstable-cum-Seasalter ... ..	Nurse Richardson.

### MEASLES.

The Urban District of Herne Bay employs a part-time nurse to visit cases of Measles which are notified. Her salary is £15 a year.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The administration of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, and the Milk (Mothers and Children) Orders, is in the hands of the County Council, which body levies a rate of a farthing in the £ for the purpose of carrying out the provision of these Acts, and employs six nurses as Health Visitors, who are also Tuberculosis Nurses.

Their districts are arranged as follows :—

Nurse Morris ...	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.
Nurse Stokes ...	Herne Bay U.D. and the parishes of Swalecliffe, Herne, Hoath, Reculver and Sturry in the Blean R.D.

Nurse Worthington	Parishes of Hackington, St. Dunstons Without, and Westbere in the Blean R.D.
Nurse Masker ...	Parishes of Seasalter and Blean.
Nurse Tustain ...	Parish of Chislet in the Blean R.D.; Parishes of Sarre, St. Nicholas, Birchington, Westgate, Acol, Garlinge, St. Lawrence in the Thanet R.D.
Nurse Cheesman ...	Parishes of Monkton, Stonar and Minster in the Thanet R.D.

### LABORATORY.

The bacteriological work connected with the United District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, free of charge. This is a very valuable asset to the Medical Officer of Health in dealing with outbreaks of disease. The bacteriological examination of water and milk samples is also of great importance.

The chemical examination of samples of water is carried out by the County Analyst.

### DISINFECTION.

There are three Steam Disinfectors available for use in the United District, and there is in addition one at the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council possess a "Thresh," which is erected in the Council's yard. I think the time has arrived when the Council should consider the advisability of providing a larger steam disinfecter, housed in a more commodious building.

The Isle of Thanet Rural District Council has a "Washington Lyon," belonging to the Council, situated at the Poor Law Institution, Minster. This is a high pressure disinfecter.

A "Thresh" Steam Disinfecter, the property of the Blean Board of Guardians which is situated at the Blean Poor Law Institution, is available for the use of the Blean Rural District Council and the Herne Bay Urban District Council. This is an old machine, but when it was tested in the year 1921 it was found reliable.

It would be a great advantage if a Steam Disinfecter were erected at the Isolation Hospital belonging to the Blean R.D.C. and available for both Blean and Herne Bay districts. The disinfecter at the Poor Law Institution has been in use for many years.

### SCHOOLS.

The routine inspection of children attending the elementary schools was carried out as usual, the children inspected being those born in the following years: 1920, 1917 and 1912.

School Clinics were opened at Broadstairs and Herne Bay in May, at the Mothercraft Club and the Parochial Church Institute respectively. The School Dentist has been attending one day a week at each clinic, and School Medical Inspector one morning in each month.

In November, arrangements with the Kent and Canterbury Hospital for the treatment of school children suffering from enlarged tonsils, adenoids and defective visions which had been in abeyance since the previous year were renewed.

## SCHOOL CANTEENS.

There are three School Canteens in existence in the United District at Herne Bay, St. Peter-in-Thanet, and St. Stephen's near Canterbury. The provision of wholesome midday meals for those school children who live too far from their homes to go home to dinner has a very beneficial effect. There are, unfortunately, however, a certain number of parents who do not feel inclined to pay the charge made, which is 3d. per meal. The average number of children who attend at Herne Bay canteen is 45, and the same number attend at St. Peter's, and between 50 and 60 at St. Stephen's.

## PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

There are many good-class private Boarding Schools situated in the United District, particularly in Broadstairs and Westgate. As a rule these are provided with sanatoria in which can be isolated scholars suffering from infectious diseases. To the best of my knowledge the sanitary arrangements in connection with these private schools and their water supply may be considered quite satisfactory. As a rule each school has its own medical attendant and the principals do not spare any expense where the health of their scholars is concerned.

The Sanitary Inspector of each of the four districts is responsible for the information given under the following headings in the report of his district, viz. : Sanitary Circumstances, Housing, and Inspection and Supervision of Food.

## BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	26,865 acres
Population (Census 1911)	...	...	...	...	7,597
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	8,682
Population, 1925 (R.G.)	...	...	...	...	8,770
Population (estimated 1925)	...	...	...	...	9,123
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,006
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	1,980
Rateable Value of the Rural District	...	...	...	...	£68,272
Amount produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£284
Structurally separate Dwellings occupied 1921	...	...	...	...	1,913

Adoptive Acts in force :

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907—

Part II., Secs. 15, 16, 17 and 23.

Part III., Secs. 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 46 and 49.

Part IV.

Bye-laws made under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, Sec. 26, are in force in the parishes of St. Stephen's, Sturry, Westbere, Herne and Reculver.

Special regulations as to the constructions of drains and connections to the sewer are in force in the parishes of Herne and Reculver only.

POOR LAW.—Cost of Out-Relief for the Blean Rural District during the year ended 31st March, 1926, was £594 16s. 11d.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births*      Male    63 (Legitimate 59, Illegitimate 4)  
                  Female 56 (Legitimate 53, Illegitimate 3)

Total 119

Birth Rate (R.G.), 13.5.    Birth Rate (E. and W.), 18.3.

*Deaths* (Civilians only)    Male    49  
    Female 44

Total 93

Death Rate (R.G.), 10.6.    Death Rate (E. and W.), 12.2.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :  
                  From Sepsis, Nil.      From other causes, Nil.

*Deaths of Infants under 1 year :*

Legitimate, Male    3	Illegitimate, Male    —
Legitimate, Female 3	Illegitimate, Female —
—	
6	

Infant Mortality Rate :—      (England and Wales 75)

Total, ~~50~~<sup>53</sup> per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate, —      Illegitimate, —

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 1.

## BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1914	...	16.56	...	12.59	...	69
1915	...	16.31	...	12.93	...	55
1916	...	20.61	...	15.71	...	31
1917	...	14.90	...	17.21	...	100
1918	...	15.93	...	15.08	...	51
1919	...	13.02	...	10.73	...	20
1920	...	20.51	...	12.07	...	59
1921	...	16.9	...	11.94	...	35
1922	...	13.5	...	12.05	...	53
1923	...	18.72	...	12.8	...	12
1924	...	16.95	...	9.39	...	47
1925	...	13.5	...	10.6	...	<del>50</del> 53

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

1914	...	23.8	...	14.0	...	105
1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83
1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT, 1925.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only. All Causes....							49	44
1.	Enteric fever	...	...	...	...	...		
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...		
3.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...		
4.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...		
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...		
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...		
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
8.	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	1	
9.	Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...	...		
10.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
11.	Other tuberculous disease	...	...	...	...	...		
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	6	4
13.	Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	...	...		
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
16.	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	8	9
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...		2
18.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...		1
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...		3
20.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...		1
21.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...		1
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...		1
23.	Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	
24.	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...		
25.	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
26.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...		
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...	...		
28.	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	2	
29.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	
30.	Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
31.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	15	11
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...		

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

## WATER SUPPLY.

Three public water supplies are available in different portions of the district, viz. : The Canterbury Gas and Water Co., from which the villages of Sturry, Westbere and Upstreet and portions of the parishes of St. Dunstan's and St. Stephen's obtain a supply; the Herne Bay Water Co., which supplies the parish of Hoath and the greater portion of the parish of Herne; the Whitstable District Council, which supplies a portion of the parish of Whitstable-cum-Seasalter.

The supply from each of these sources is constant. New pumping plant has been installed by the Canterbury Water Co. during the year. Additional adits were driven at the waterworks at Ford, Herne, by the Herne Bay Water Co., which have resulted in an increased supply of water.

Thirty-five houses at Herne Common are supplied from a well at the Blean Institution, the mains belonging to the Council. Owing to the increase in the number of consumers during recent years the flow of water into the well has been found insufficient at certain periods of the year to provide a constant supply. This fact was reported to the Council and they were advised that a fresh source of supply would have to be found. Plans have therefore been prepared by the Council's engineer for a main to be laid from Herne village to connect up the Herne Bay Water Co.'s main

with that of the Council; for the construction of a storage tank and the installation of modern pumping plant at the Institution, and thus provide for a constant supply of water from the waterworks at Ford. These plans are being submitted to the Minister of Health for approval.

During the year 108 houses have been connected with the public water mains, 100 of the houses being newly erected dwellings. The total number of houses now served by public supplies is 1,571. The parish of Blean and the hamlet known as Tyler Hill, in the parish of St. Stephen's, are without a satisfactory water supply. It is hoped that the Canterbury Gas and Water Co. will be prevailed upon to erect the water tower necessary to give the requisite pressure to furnish a supply to these areas.

Twenty-four samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis. These were divided into the following categories :—

Excellent organic quality	...	...	...	2
Good	„	„	...	9
Very fair	„	„	...	1
Fair	„	„	...	2
Necessary to boil before use	...	...	...	5
Polluted and unfit for drinking purposes	...	...	...	5

Three samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, two of these being from a public supply. The reports on the latter showed this water to be more satisfactory than at previous examinations. The report on the other sample, taken from a private well supplying a number of houses at Reculver, stated: "This water shows marked contamination and is unsuitable for drinking in a raw state." The cost of extending the main to these houses is prohibitive having regard to the rateable value of the parish for this purpose. Steps are being taken to protect and improve the well.

#### SEWERAGE.

No large schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal have been carried out during the past five years. Approval of the plans for the enlargement of the small disposal works at Swalecliffe is expected early in the New Year. Immediately this is received the laying of the much-needed sewer along Herne Bay Road and South Street can proceed. Two small lengths of sewer have been laid during the year, one at St. Stephen's Road and one at St. Thomas's Hill, both of which discharge into sewers belonging to the Corporation of Canterbury.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate numbers of each type of sanitary convenience in the district are :—

W.C.'s into drainage systems	...	...	...	680
W.C.'s into cesspools	...	...	...	496
Pail closets	...	...	...	1,177
Privies	...	...	...	18

Further development at the Chislet Colliery village and Upstreet will necessitate a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for this area.

#### SCAVENGING.

House refuse is removed by contractors twice weekly in the more thickly populated portions of the parishes of St. Stephen's, Sturry, Westbere, Herne and Reculver, and during the summer months in Whitstable-cum-Seasalter. During the winter it is only removed once a week in the latter parish. The work is carried out by means of horse-drawn vehicles. In some cases the refuse is utilised to fill up disused gravel pits and in others for agricultural purposes. The refuse collected at Sturry and Westbere is now being dis-

posed of to a firm of brickmakers. Pail closets are cleansed twice weekly in the village of Sturry. I trust the time is not far distant when this objectionable proceeding will be rendered unnecessary. Cesspools are cleansed throughout the whole of the district by contractors employed by the Council. The cesspools are emptied by means of manual pumps, the contents being pumped into tank carts or direct on the land. Five carts and seven pumps are employed, but these are insufficient to cope with the constantly increasing number of cesspools. In consequence this work has engaged an undue amount of my time and I have reported to the Council that it will be necessary to employ some mechanical means for clearing the cesspools if the work is to be carried out in a satisfactory manner. The Council are now considering what type of appliance will best meet the local conditions.

### TABULAR STATEMENT

Regarding Inspections made during the Year.

	Total No. of Inspections and re- Inspections	Total No. of Notices Served.		Statutory complied with.	Informal complied with.
		Statutory.	Informal.		
Dwellings under P.H.A. ... ..	378	4	85	2	83
Dwellings under H.A. ... ..	129	1	33		27
Water Supply to New Houses ...	127	1	1	1	1
Cowsheds ... ..	322	13	33	11	33
Slaughter Houses ... ..	98		3		3
Meat Shops ... ..	36				
Bakehouses ... ..	31		9		9
Factories and Workshops ... ..	33		3		3
Infectious Cases ... ..	45				
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	15	1	1	1	1
Schools ... ..	17		1		
Miscellaneous ... ..	29	2	9	2	9
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>169</b>

Number of written complaints received ... .. 25

### PARTICULARS OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Drainage systems tested ... ..	10
Blocked drains cleared ... ..	25
New drains provided and repairs ... ..	16
Closets repaired ... ..	17
Pails converted into W.C.'s ... ..	1
Privies converted into pails ... ..	2
Dampness abated ... ..	18
Guttering to eaves provided or renewed ... ..	16
New windows provided ... ..	14
New ceilings ... ..	13
Roofs repaired ... ..	18
Water supplies improved ... ..	27
New floors ... ..	11
New cooking ranges ... ..	4
Overcrowding abated ... ..	3
Yards paved ... ..	2
Sinks provided ... ..	2
Nuisances arising from deposits abated ... ..	6
„ caused by keeping of animals abated ... ..	3
„ caused by van dwellers abated ... ..	4

# FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of premises on the register is as follows :—

Retail bakehouses (one factory)	...	...	...	...	9
Carpenters (four factories)	...	...	...	...	13
Motor repairing	...	...	...	...	7
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	7
Boot repairers	...	...	...	...	5
Laundries	...	...	...	...	2
Hurdle makers (one factory)	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	2
Gut scrapers	...	...	...	...	1
Colliery (factory)	...	...	...	...	1
Brick and pottery works (one factory)	...	...	...	...	2
Flour mills (factories)	...	...	...	...	2
Concrete, brick and tile works (factory)	...	...	...	...	1
Straw rope factory	...	...	...	...	1
Sausage factory	...	...	...	...	1
Total					56

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	20	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	44	12	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	—	—	—
Total ... ..	64	12	—

## DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of defects			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	9	9	—	—
Want of Ventilation ... ..	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	1	1*	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation ;				
Insufficient ... ..	1	1*		
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	1	1		
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—		
Total ... ..	13	13	—	—

\* Included in one notice relating to the same premises.

## SCHOOLS.

## PUBLIC ELEMENTARY.

	BLEAN COUNCIL	CHISLET C. of E.	HERNE C. of E.	HOATH C. of E.
Building	One room good	Fair condition	Fairly good	Insufficient
Playground	Requires tar- ring and fenc- ing off from lane	Gravel	Fairly good	Bad condition
Sanitary conveniences	Hand flushed W.C.'s. Fair	Hand flushed W.C.'s	Pail closets Require con- verting into W.C.'s	Pail closets Urinal good
Water supply	Well	Nil	Main	Main
Lavatories and cloakrooms	Basin in cloakroom	Unsatisfactory hand basins	No satisfac- tory lavatory	Very small cloakrooms
Cleanliness	Fair	Good	Good	Fair
Ventilation	Good	Good	Fair	Fair
Lighting	Good	Good	Central room dark	Good
Heating	Open fire	Tortoise stoves insuf- ficient	Open fires	Open fires

## PUBLIC ELEMENTARY.

	HILLBORO' or RECULVER C. of E.	ST. STEPHENS COUNCIL	STURRY C. of E.	WESTBERE C. of E.
Building	2 rooms.	Good	Fairly good	One good room
Playground	Gravel. Good	Asphalted Good condi- tion	Gravel. Fair	Gravel uneven
Sanitary conveniences	Pail closets Urinal poor	Excellent	Pail closets Urinal bad	Pail closets Urinal insuf- ficient
Water supply	Well	Main	Main	Main
Lavatories and cloakrooms	Lack of lava- tories. Cloak- room small	Good. Lava- tory basins provided	Unsatisfactory Lavatories only sinks	One lavatory basin
Cleanliness	Fair	Good	Insufficient at- tention to fix- tures	Good
Ventilation	Good	Good	Bad in one classroom	Good
Lighting	Good	Good	Good	Good
Heating	Open fires	Open fires	Open fires	Open fire in- sufficient

## SCHOOLS.

## PRIVATE BOARDING SCHOOLS.

HERNE BAY COLLEGE

ST. EDMUND'S SCHOOL,

Building	Excellent	Excellent
Playground	Ample playing fields	Ample playing fields
Sanitary conveniences	Good	Excellent
Water supply	Main	Main
Lavatories and cloakrooms	Good	Good
Cleanliness	Good	Good
Ventilation	Good	Good
Lighting	Good	Good
Heating	Good	Good

## HOUSING.

1. The housing conditions in the district may be described as fairly good. Excluding houses required for employees at the Chislet Colliery who are at present residing in adjoining towns and for whom the Colliery Company have proposed making provision, there is not a great shortage of houses for rural workers. Additional houses are required, however, to meet the needs of the younger generation who have now reached marriageable age.

2. To meet this need, the Council have submitted plans of a type of house, which they considered suitable, to the Ministry of Health, the cost of which would be £295. If these are approved the Council are prepared to adopt Section 2 of the Housing Act, 1923.

3. Important changes in the population may be anticipated in the near future following the development of the coalfields in and near the district.

## OVERCROWDING.

Not many cases of overcrowding have come to my notice during the period under review. Those noted were mostly due to insufficient bedroom accommodation in the older type of cottages.

## FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The standard of housing in the district varies considerably. In some parts of the more rural parishes a number of houses are "worn out" and require replacing. A large portion of the district, on the other hand, consist of well-built modern houses.

The following is a brief summary of the the conditions in each parish.

## BLEAN.

Consists mainly of old houses. Lack of three bedrooms in many and dampness are the principal defects. Need of a public water supply.

## CHISLET.

The Marshside portion of this parish contains a number of the "worn out" houses referred to above. The conditions in the remainder of the parish good.

## HERNE.

Standard in this parish good.

## HOATH.

A few houses structurally defective. Remainder good.

## RECVLVER.

Almost entirely composed of modern houses.

## ST. DUNSTAN'S.

Good.

## ST. STEPHEN'S.

Good.

## STURRY.

Good except for a few old cottages in the village street. Principal defects: damp, causing decay of floors.

## SWALECLIFFE.

Very small parish. Four old houses exist of the back-to-back type. Lack of water supply the principal defect.

## WESTBERE.

General standard good.

## WHITSTABLE-CUM-SEASALTER.

Consists almost entirely of modern built houses.

About 75 per cent. of the defects found are due to the owners' lack of supervision and the early remedy of small defects.

Following the inspection of houses, an informal notice is served on the owner, enumerating the defects found and the work required to remedy these. In nearly all cases this is sufficient.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	116
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—						
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	58

## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	191
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	47
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	8
(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	144

## 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers (including three standing over from last year)	...	133
--	-----	-----

## 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) *Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..   | 1   |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—   |     |
| (a) By owners ... ..   | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... | Nil |

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | 8   |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—                 |     |
| (a) By owners ... ..  | 4   |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...   | Nil |

(C) *Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Acts, 1925.*

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders ... ..   | 8   |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..       | 1   |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined ... .. | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..    | Nil |
| (5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ..       | Nil |

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## DAIRIES, COWSHED AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of the year 51 persons were registered as purveyors and 99 as producers of milk. 322 visits were paid to the various premises.

The new sheds for which plans were approved at the end of 1924 have been erected at Marshside.

An unsatisfactory wooden shed at Blean has been replaced by a brick building designed to accommodate seven cows. Sheds at Upstreet to house 22 cows have been improved; glazed stoneware mangers provided, stall divisions fixed, and additional light and ventilation provided.

Sheds and dairy at Broomfield have been paved, drained and lighted.

Improvements at three other sheds will be carried out in the coming year.

Ten samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination.

No. of Samples.	Over 200,000 bacteria per cc.	Under 20,000 bacteria per cc.	Under 30,000 bacteria per cc.	B. Coli present in 1/100 cc.	B. Coli present in 1/10 c.c.
10	2	8	4	5	7

# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS SLAUGHTER-HOUSES ORDER AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

As a result of the former Order two premises were registered and three licensed as slaughter-houses. The amount of slaughtering carried out in the district is small, and in all except one of the premises the only animals killed are pigs. I am present as often as possible when slaughtering occurs, but as in some instances the killing takes place at the same time in slaughter-houses some miles apart it is obviously impossible to attend both, more especially as no travelling facilities are afforded me by the Council.

The following tabular statement shows the number of private slaughter-houses in use in the area at the date mentioned :—

	1920	January, 1920.	December, 1925.
Registered ... ..	2	2	2
Licenced ... ..	—	—	3
Total ... ..	2	2	5

Only one of the licensed slaughter-houses has been regularly used throughout the year. The quality of the meat has been good, only 1cwt. 2lbs. has had to be destroyed. Condemned meat is covered with disinfectant and buried.

A copy of the Meat Regulations was furnished to each purveyor of meat within the district before the date on which they came into operation. The number of persons affected by the regulations is 18.

All butchers' shops are provided with glass windows and no difficulty has arisen over the protection of bacon from flies during the summer months. In nearly every case it was found that safes were provided for the storage of bacon.

## PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.

The use of the bakehouse erected during the preceding year has now been abandoned, so that nine bakehouses now exist in the district. One of these was considerably enlarged and the walls lined with glazed bricks, and the lighting and ventilation improved.

Three fish shops are situated in the district where both wet and dried fish are sold. No complaints were received respecting these premises.

The Sausage Factory has generally been kept in a satisfactory condition.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One complaint was received respecting the smoke from the fire used for heating creosote at a hurdle maker's. Observation was kept on the premises but no nuisance could be proved.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings were taken against the owner of a newly erected dwelling house under Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act. Although a public water main was quite close to the premises, the owner's supply of water was obtained from a rainwater butt and a shallow hole dug in the garden. The magistrates adjourned the case for the owner to lay on a supply from the main, she having pleaded guilty. After the case had again come before the justices the work was carried out.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Fortunately, during the five years ended 1925, the amount of infectious disease which has prevailed in the Blean Rural District has been small. The average number of cases of Diphtheria notified each year being 3, and of Scarlet Fever 9.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for use in necessitous cases. It is stored at the office of the Sanitary Inspector.

As far as is known no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever in the district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, during the past five years.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a public elementary school the head teacher is informed by the Medical Officer of Health and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. He visits the schools and takes any action which he considers necessary.

Average number of deaths registered in the Rural District from Influenza during the last five years was 2.8. Only one death occurred from Encephalitis Lethargica during that period, and that was registered in the year 1925.

Facilities are available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Blean Poor Law Institution. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	10	9	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	2	
Erysipelas	...	...	...	2	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	2	—	
Total	...	...	...	18	11	

# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1925 IN THE BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...				1	1	4	4					
Pneumonia ...	1									2	1	
Erysipelas ...											1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica											1	1
Total ...	1			1	1	4	4			2	3	2

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
10 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ...	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
35 ...	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
45 ...	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	5	6	2	7	6	3		

In addition to the above new cases there was one of Pulmonary aged 49 which was not notified but which came to the knowledge of the medical officer of health through the death returns.

## HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

Area (excluding water) ...	887 acres
Population (Census, 1911) ...	7,781
Population (Census, 1921) ...	11,872
Population, 1925 (R.G.) ...	10,440
Population (estimated 1925) ...	14,001
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921) ...	2,285
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (1921) ...	2,571
Rateable Value of the Urban District ...	£80,359
Amount produced by a penny rate ...	£318
Structurally separate Dwellings occupied 1921 ...	2,155

## Adoptive Acts in force :

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Private Streets Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (parts 2 to 10 inclusive).

Special Local Order for the notification of Measles and German Measles dated March 3rd, 1920.

Cost of Out-relief in the Urban District for the year ended

31st March, 1926, was ... .. £455 7 4

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births* Male 61 (Legitimate 56, Illegitimate 5)

Female 56 (Legitimate 52, Illegitimate 4)

Total 117 ~~11.2~~Birth Rate (R.G.), ~~10.34~~. Birth Rate (E. and W.), 18.3.*Deaths* (Civilians only) Male 47

Female 77

Total 124

Death Rate (R.G.), 11.87. Death Rate (E. and W.), 12.2.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis, Nil. From other causes, 1.

*Deaths of Infants under one year :*

Legitimate, Male 2 Illegitimate, Male 1

Legitimate, Female 3 Illegitimate, Female 1

Total ... .. 7

Infant Mortality Rate :— (England and Wales 75).

Total, ~~64~~<sup>59</sup> per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate, 46 per 1,000 registered births.

Illegitimate, 222 per 1,000 registered births.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.

## HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1914	...	17.04	...	12.99	...	43
1915	...	13.85	...	16.85	...	53
1916	...	13.51	...	14.18	...	109
1917	...	14.92	...	17.94	...	96
1918	...	17.49	...	18.03	...	104
1919	...	15.20	...	15.11	...	76
1920	...	19.44	...	10.77	...	84
1921	...	13.72	...	11.15	...	100
1922	...	12.3	...	11.5	...	56
1923	...	10.99	...	9.5	...	18
1924	...	11.18	...	10.99	...	61
1925	...	<del>10.34</del> 11.2	...	11.87	...	<del>64</del> 59
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
1914	...	23.8	...	14.0	...	105
1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83
1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT 1925.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only.	All Causes.	...	...	...	47	77
1. Enteric fever	...	...	...	...		
2. Small-pox	...	...	...	...		
3. Measles	...	...	...	...		
4. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...		
5. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	1	
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...		
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	5
8. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...		
9. Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...		1
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	2	6
11. Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...		2
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	8	11
13. Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	...		
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...		
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	3	5
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	9	15
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	5	6
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	1
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...		
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...		1
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...		
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...		
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1	1
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...		3
26. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...		1
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	2	2
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...		
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	2	
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	8	17
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...		

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

The whole of the Urban District is supplied with water by the Herne Bay Waterworks Co. A constant and plentiful supply is available from the reservoir (of 750,000 gallons capacity) at Mickleburgh Hill, and to ensure a constant supply to the houses on the higher land at East Cliff a water tower, supporting a tank of 60,000 gallons, has been erected. The source of supply is deep wells at Ford,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the town. Dwelling houses are furnished with draw taps inside house, over properly constructed sinks and drains. One house only in the Urban Area is not connected with the water mains.

Great care is taken by the Company to eliminate any possible source of contamination. The reports on four samples taken during the year (of which two were chemical and two bacteriological) were satisfactory. The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There are only two small streams in the district, one of which receives waste water from the Gas Works, which has been the cause of complaint during the year. The other stream drains a large area in the adjoining Rural District, and no pollution is observed.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The whole of the Urban Area is furnished with a system of sewerage, and only one house is not connected therewith. There are no cesspools in the district. The sewers gravitate to an outfall which discharges into the sea at a point below low-water mark, the outlet not being exposed at any time. The discharge is regulated to occur on the ebb tide only, the matter being carried away eastward and dispersed in deep water. A pumping station situated in the centre of the town prevents the flooding of cellars and basements during heavy rains when the sewers are tide-locked. A second pumping station is built at Westbrook for lifting the sewage from a low level sewer at the western end of the district to the higher level gravitation sewer. At normal times the sewerage system may be said to be efficient and satisfactory.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With one exception, all premises within the district are provided with water closets, fitted with flushing cisterns. At one house earth closets are provided, and at two outlying workplaces pail closets.

## SCAVENGING : REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The collection and disposal of house refuse is carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor to the Council. A daily collection is made in the town, and thrice weekly in the outlying districts. Householders are required to place their refuse receptacles on the edge of the pavement early every morning and to remove them after being emptied. No fixed receptacles are allowed. The Council do not require the provision of properly covered receptacles, and improvement in this respect is desirable. The refuse is conveyed to a tip in the adjoining Rural District about two miles from the town and is ultimately disposed of for agricultural purposes.

## WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1925.

(a) The number and nature of Inspections made during the year :—

Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	298
Inspection of works required by notice	...	...	...	...	...	112
Re-inspections and following-up visits	...	...	...	...	...	344
Visits and enquiries <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	150
Miscellaneous inspections and visits	...	...	...	...	...	195
Slaughter-houses and meat inspections	...	...	...	...	...	316
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	67
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	48
Other food preparation places	...	...	...	...	...	98
Factories, workshops and workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	97
Stables, mews, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	41
Common lodging-house	...	...	...	...	...	8
Holiday camps	...	...	...	...	...	17
Rats and mice destruction	...	...	...	...	...	30
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,821

(b) The number of Notices served :—

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	32
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	185
Total	...	...	...	...	...	217

(c) The result of service of such Notices :—

Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Interior repairs to dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	48

Exterior repairs to dwelling-houses .....	...	...	16
Leaky roofs repaired ... ..	...	...	20
Eaves guttering and downspouting defects rectified ...	...	...	64
Other defects causing damp (want of damp-course, etc.) ...	...	...	16
House drainage defects rectified ... ..	...	...	134
Water closets and other sanitary fittings ... ..	...	...	129
Defective water services repaired ... ..	...	...	7
Yards paved ... ..	...	...	16
Premises cleansed and whitewashed ... ..	...	...	26
Accumulations removed ... ..	...	...	16
Nuisances arising from the keeping of animals abated ...	...	...	6
Overcrowding abated ... ..	...	...	7
Miscellaneous nuisances abated ... ..	...	...	27
<hr/>			
Total ... ..	...	...	546
Number of complaints registered and investigated ... ..	...	...	133
Number of drains tested ... ..	...	...	36

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are no trades or industries (excepting the Gas Works) causing black smoke. Some complaints were made with respect to smoky chimneys in various trades, and appropriate action was taken.

#### PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

In the Urban District, bye-laws have been made with respect to houses let in lodgings, offensive trades, and common lodging-houses.

#### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

These bye-laws were adopted in 1924, and the administration of same has been difficult owing to the various interpretations of the term "Houses Let in Lodgings." It was assumed that the bye-laws would apply to all houses divided into separate tenements or occupied by more than one family, but this does not appear to be the case. Three houses have been registered as "Houses Let in Lodgings," at each of which notice to comply with the bye-laws were outstanding at the end of the year.

#### DISINFECTION.

Number of houses disinfected ... ..	...	...	45
Number of articles steam disinfected ... ..	...	...	472
(Mattresses 46, beds 9, pillows 146, blankets 112, clothing 80, rugs and cushions 30, other articles 49)			
Number of parcels of filthy bedding destroyed by fire ...	...	...	3

#### DISINFESTATION.

Number of houses at which action was taken ... ..	...	...	3
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#### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The trades of a "fish frier" and a "rag and bone dealer" have, by order, been declared to be Offensive Trades in the Urban District. Four fish friers and one rag and bone dealer have been registered, whose premises are periodically inspected.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

One common lodging-house is registered and is subject to bye-laws adopted in 1884. The house is very old and is difficult to maintain in a proper state of repair; but on the whole it is kept in a satisfactory condition. On one occasion the house was found in an unsatisfactory state, and the keeper, who is registered annually, was warned.

## REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

No regulations have been made by the Council. In view of the number of basements used for this purpose and the inevitable dampness due to the clay subsoil, there is no doubt that such regulations would be useful in prohibiting the occupation of unhealthy rooms as sleeping places. During the year one case of illegal occupation of a cellar dwelling was dealt with and another basement dwelling was improved.

## SCHOOLS.

In the Urban District there is one public elementary school belonging to the County Council. It consists of three separate departments—boys, girls and infants.

## PARTICULARS OF SCHOOL.

	BOYS	GIRLS	INFANTS
Buildings	Modern brick built, one storey	Same	Same
Playground	Approx. 2380 sq. yds. Asphalte paving	1000 sq. yds. Asphalte paving	1330 sq. yds. Asphalte paving
Water supply	Main	Main	Main
Lavatories	12 washbasins	7 washbasins	3 washbasins
Cloakrooms	Ample. Heated	Same	Same
Cleanliness Ventilation Lighting	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Heating	Hot water circulating system throughout	Same	Same
Sanitary conveniences	5 water closets 12 yds. urinal accommodation	9 water closets	6 water closets 2 yds. urinal accommodation

## HOUSING.

## 1.—GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

(1) A shortage of working class dwellings exists. Many houses intended for occupation by one family are now occupied by two or more families. In April an inspection of working class houses in certain streets was made for the purpose of ascertaining particulars of occupation. The following results were obtained :—

Houses at which enquiries were made	...	...	...	250
Number occupied by 2 families	...	...	...	32
„ „ „ 3 „	...	...	...	5
„ „ „ 4 „	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ 5 „	...	...	...	5

These figures include 10 large houses which may be termed houses let in lodgings.

The general housing conditions may be summarised by quoting an extract from the Census returns of 1921 :—

In the Herne Bay Urban District.—The number of private families occupying one room was 111. Of these one-room dwellings, 56 were occupied by one person, 39 by two, 12 by three, three by four, and one by five persons.

The number of private families occupying two rooms was 244. Of these two-room dwellings, 31 were occupied by one person, 101 by two, 68 by three, 26 by four, 11 by five, five by six, one by eight, and one by 14 persons.

Comparative figures of density of population, 1911-21 :

	1 room.	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 and 7.	8 and 9.	10, etc.
In 1911	1.8	2.7	1 6	8.0	14.6	42.7	19.3	9 3
In 1921	4 3	9.5	7.8	10.0	13 4	35.7	13 9	4.6

The position has probably improved since that time, but there is evidence that it is still acute.

(2) *Extent of shortage of Houses*: Measures taken or contemplated to meet shortage.—The Council have erected 12 houses, and another five are now under construction. (These houses, however, are intended for tenants of houses that are to be demolished for street improvement.) A scheme for the erection of 60 working class dwellings, and 18 houses of a superior type, is now under consideration. Also, the Council have adopted the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, and advantage is being taken of the same.

(3) It is not anticipated that, excepting the natural increase, there will be any variation in the population.

## 2.—OVERCROWDING.

(1) *Extent*.—In November and December an inspection was made of 106 working-class houses in the poorest parts of the town. Seventeen cases of overcrowding were found, and other known cases make a total of 25.

(2) *Causes*.—Lack of accommodation and children of families reaching adolescence requiring separate rooms.

(3) *Measures taken*.—The erection and contemplated erection of houses by the Council.

(4) *Principal cases of Overcrowding and action taken*.

(a) House, 5 rooms and kitchen, 2 families, 8 adults, 6 children.

(b) Part of house, 4 rooms (2 underground) and small box-room, 3 families, 6 adults, 10 children.

(c) Part of house, 4 small rooms, 2 families, 4 adults, 4 children.

(d) Part of house, 2 small rooms and joint use of small kitchen, family of 7 adults.

(e) Small 4-roomed cottage, family of 8, including 4 adults.

(f) Small 4-roomed cottage, 3 families, 7 adults, 1 child.

In some cases Statutory Notices to abate nuisance have been served, but they generally fail owing to lack of accommodation.

## 3.—FITNESS OF HOUSES.

(a) In certain parts of the town the general standard of housing is poor. A number of houses are old and are approaching a state of decay which might be described as the "worn out" stage, and are not worth the cost of reconstruction. Other houses require thorough repair and renovation to make them in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. An inspection of 106 working-class houses in a poor neighbourhood was made in November and December, and of these houses it was considered that

- 17 should be closed for demolition,
- 25 should be closed for reconstruction,
- 30 were in need of structural repair.

In other parts of the town the houses are comparatively modern and can be made satisfactory.

(b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses : Chronic damp arising from the want of or decay of the damp course in walls; porous nature of brickwork; leaky roofs; general decay of interior woodwork and plastering; absence of yard space; want of surface paving and drainage of yards; defective drainage systems.

(c) The defects may be said to be due to the reluctance of owners, owing to the high cost of material and labour, to maintain their property in a proper state.

General action taken as regards unfit houses under

(a) The Public Health Acts.—Instructions given by Council to deal with urgent sanitary requirements.

(b) The Housing Acts.—No action has been taken.

#### 5.—BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES, TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, AND TO TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

Bye-laws relating to new buildings were under consideration at the end of the year. The bye-laws now in force are the 1877 series. The bye-laws relating to houses let in lodgings have been found difficult in administration.

No bye-laws have been made with respect to tents, vans, sheds, etc.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) ...	92
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(1) By the Local Authority ... ..	Nil
(2) By other bodies or persons ... ..	39

#### 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

##### *Inspection.*

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	298
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations. ... ..	135
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ... ..	17
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	100

#### 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. ... ..	75
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#### 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 ...	Nil
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## (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	25
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
By owners ... ..	23
By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(C) Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 ... ..	Nil

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## (a) MILK SUPPLY.

Only a small quantity of milk is produced in the Urban Area. During the summer season large quantities are brought in by rail, chiefly from the great Dairy Companies. In the absence of complaint, the quality of the milk may be considered satisfactory. The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Police.

(1) No action has been taken as to tuberculous milk or cattle.

(2) Two dealers licences to sell Certified Milk were issued; in each instance the supply being obtained from a licenced producer outside the district.

(3) No refusal to register or revocation of registration has been made. One retailer of milk appeared before the Council to show cause why his name should not be removed from the register and was warned as to the future conduct of his business.

(4) No samples of graded milk have been taken for bacteriological examination.

At the close of the year, 4 Cowkeepers, 10 Dairymen and 13 Retailers of Milk were registered.

Number of inspections made ... ..	67
Number of written notices served ... ..	6

Of the cowkeepers premises, one is not provided with a satisfactory water supply; another has a range of temporary wooden structures of an unsatisfactory character; the third occupies some very old cowsheds which are difficult to maintain in a cleanly condition; and the fourth has no sheds whatever, the cows being kept and milked in the open fields.

The premises of the dairymen are fairly satisfactory.

## (b) MEAT.

## (1) Meat inspection.

No. of notices of slaughter received ... ..	396
No. of carcasses and viscera inspected ... ..	980
No. of instances of diseased or unsound meat found ... ..	12
Weight of meat condemned and destroyed ... ..	3 qrs. 5 lbs.

As far as possible all animals slaughtered in the district are inspected. The diseased meat is disposed of by burial. No arrangements for meat marking have been made.

## (2) Administration of Regulations as regards stalls, shops, etc.

The premises affected by the Regulations were inspected and action taken in respect of the following matters:—

Direct communication of w.c. with meat store ... ..	5
Untrapped drains from sinks ... ..	3
Unsuitability of premises as meat stores ... ..	4
Want of cleanliness ... ..	3

There are no meat stalls in the Urban District.

*Statement as to Slaughter-houses.*

			In 1920.		In Jan., 1925.		In Dec., 1925
Registered	...	...	3	...	2	...	2
Licensed	...	...	2	...	1	...	1
			—		—		—
Total	...		5	...	3	...	3

(c) OTHER FOODS.

Premises where food is prepared or sold, including fishmongers, fried fish shops, ice-cream makers, sausage-making rooms, cooked meat shops, etc., are inspected. The following amount of unsound food was condemned and destroyed :—

Fish	...	...	...	...	2 cwt. 2 qrs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	1 cwt. 2 qrs.

*Bakehouses.*—The 14 bakehouses in the district are periodically inspected, 48 visits being made. The following nuisances were dealt with :—

Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	4
Defective sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	2

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	30	5	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	54	3	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	13	—	—
Total ... ..	97	8	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of defects			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	6	6	—	—
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	4	4	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	7	7	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	17	17	—	—

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The average number of cases of Diphtheria notified each year during the five years ended 1925 was nine, and of Scarlet Fever 19. The figures for the year 1921 were 28 and 46 respectively, but this was mainly due to an outbreak which occurred at St. Anne's Home during that year, when 15 cases of Diphtheria and 34 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed from that institution to the hospital of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. In the year 1925 there was not a single case of Diphtheria notified in the Urban District.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for use in necessitous cases, in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the office of the Sanitary Inspector.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever in the district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, during the past five years.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a department of the Council School the head teacher concerned is informed, and the Medical Officer of Health is notified by the head teacher of the occurrence of any suspicious symptoms among the children and of any absentees with suspicious symptoms.

The average number of deaths registered in the Urban District from Influenza during the last five years was 3.8

No deaths have been registered during that period from Encephalitis Lethargica.

Facilities are available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Blean Poor Law Institution. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

During the year the construction of a shelter and public lavatories near the Clock Tower was commenced. When these buildings are finished they will undoubtedly be of great advantage to the District.

## METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS.

Total amount of sunshine recorded at the Pier during the year was 1,662 hours, 35 minutes.

The rainfall recorded at the Council's Pumping Station was 26.3 inches.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE  
YEAR 1925 IN THE HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...			1		1	5	3		1			
Diphtheria ...												
Puerperal Fever ...									1			
Pneumonia ...		1	1						1			2
Erysipelas ...											1	
Measles ...					1	1		1	1			
German Measles...	1		1						1			
Total ...	1	1	3		2	6	3	1	5		1	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Diseases.					Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...		11	8	
Diphtheria	...	...	...				
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...		1	1	
Pneumonia	...	...	...		5		
Erysipelas	...	...	...		1		
Measles	...	...	...		4		
German Measles	...	...	...		3		
Total	...	...	...	...	25	9	

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.

				Sea Street Hospital.	Blean Isolation Hospital.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	...	...		8	—	8
Puerperal Fever	...	...		—	1	1
Total	...	...		8	1	9

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age-Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..				1				
1 ... ..			1					
5 ... ..			2	2				
10 ... ..	1			1				
15 ... ..		2	1			2		1
20 ... ..		1						
25 ... ..	2	2			2	1		
35 ... ..	1	1				1		
45 ... ..		1						
55 ... ..						2		
65 and upwards		1						1
Total ... ..	4	8	4	4	2	6		2

In addition to the above new cases there was one case of Pulmonary and one case of non-Pulmonary tuberculosis which were not notified but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer through the death returns. Their ages were 28 and 16 respectively.

## HERNE BAY RIPARIAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Circular No. 651 of the Ministry of Health dated 14th December, 1925, was received.

The only ships which entered the port during the year were the passenger steamers belonging to the New Medway Steam Packet Co., which called at the Pier during the summer and landed and embarked passengers proceeding to and from Chatham, Southend and Margate.

**ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	18,473 acres
Population (Census, 1911)	...	...	...	...	12,929
Population (Census, 1911, corrected for area transferred from Rural District, since date of Census)	...	...	...	...	10,564
Population (Census, 1921)	...	...	...	...	14,085
Population, 1925 (R.G.) For Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	13,200
For Death Rate	...	...	...	...	11,980
Population (estimated 1925)	...	...	...	...	15,752
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,488
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,470
Structurally separate Dwellings occupied (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,344
Rateable value of the Rural District	...	...	...	...	£122,266
Amount produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£454

Adoptive Acts in force :—

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Secs. 23, 34, 45 and 49

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Part IV.

Adoptive Acts in force in Minster and Westgate-on-Sea :

Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1907, Sec. 38.

In force in Westgate only :

Secs. 21, 82, 92, 93 and 94, Secs. 34 to 37 (inclusive), and 39 to 50 (inclusive), comprised in Part III. of the Act.

In force in Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington :

Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 112, also Sec. 51 of the ~~Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 112, also Sec. 51 of the~~ Act of 1907.

*Poor Law*.—Cost of Out-relief for the Isle of Thanet Rural

District during the year ended 31st March, 1926 ... £1,291

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births* Male 81 (Legitimate 78, Illegitimate 3).  
Female 85 (Legitimate 79, Illegitimate 6).

—  
Total 166

Birth Rate (R.G.), 12.57. Birth Rate (E. and W.), 18.3.

*Deaths* (Civilians only) Male 58  
Female 72

—  
Total 130

Death Rate (R.G.), 10.85. Death Rate (E. and W.), 12.2.

Deaths of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis, Nil. From other causes, Nil.

*Deaths of Infants under one year :*

Legitimate, Male 6 Illegitimate, Male —  
Legitimate, Female 7 Illegitimate, Female —

—  
Total 13

Infant Mortality Rates :— (England and Wales, 75).

Total, 78 per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate, — per 1,000 registered births.

Illegitimate, — per 1,000 registered births.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 6.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.

### ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1914	...	13.53	...	11.06	...	101
1915	...	13.98	...	14.91	...	84
1916	...	14.50	...	15.67	...	70
1917	...	13.62	...	11.25	...	51
1918	...	17.30	...	15.28	...	52
1919	...	16.24	...	13.0	...	44
1920	...	24.29	...	11.05	...	34
1921	...	16.72	...	9.26	...	64
1922	...	15.11	...	14.2	...	27
1923	...	15.79	...	9.88	...	25
1924	...	10.91	...	9.87	...	47
1925	...	12.57	...	10.85	...	78

### ENGLAND AND WALES.

1914	...	23.8	...	14.0	...	105
1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83

1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT, 1925.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only.	All Causes	...	...	...	58	72
1. Enteric fever	...	...	...	...		
2. Small-pox	...	...	...	...		
3. Measles	...	...	...	...		
4. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...		
5. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	1	5
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...		
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	5
8. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...		
9. Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...		
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	5	5
11. Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	1	2
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	7	3
13. Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	...		
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	4	9
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	6	11
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...		2
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...		4
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	3	1
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	2	
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...		
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...		
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...	1	
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1	
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	2	4
26. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...		
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	4	5
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	3	1
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	12	14
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	2	

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the water supply for the district is derived from the water companies' mains, as mentioned below, and the supplies are constant.

*Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council* supply Garlinge (portion of the parish only).

*Margate Corporation* supply Garlinge, Monkton and St. Nicholas-at-Wade.

*Ramsgate Corporation* supply Minster and Manston.

*Westgate and Birchington Water Co.* supply Acol, Birchington and Westgate-on-Sea.

The village of Sarre is entirely dependent on wells for its water supply, as are also the outlying portions of the parishes bearing the same names as the villages referred to above.

I am glad to report that during autumn negotiations were commenced for a supply of tapwater to be laid from the Margate Corporation main (one mile distant) to all the houses in the village of Sarre. This scheme was to be carried out by, and at the expense of, the largest land and property owner there. Unfortunately the scheme is being held up owing to technical difficulties which, I have reason to believe, will be satisfactorily overcome during the early months of 1926.

In all, about 2,847 houses in the district are connected with the public mains, including 82 premises which were connected during the year, viz. : To new houses, 73; and to old houses, 9.

#### WATER SAMPLES.

Five samples of water have been sent to the County Analyst for chemical analysis and four to the County Medical Officer for bacteriological examination. Three of the former samples were quite satisfactory, but the two remaining samples, taken from wells supplying three houses in Monkton, were certified by the County Analyst to be unsatisfactory. At two of these cottages tapwater has been laid on, and notice has been served for a supply of tapwater to the remaining cottage. Three of the samples taken for bacteriological examination was in consequence of an outbreak of infectious disease at a private school, and the remaining sample was taken for the purposes of record only, from a private dwelling-house supplied by the Westgate and Birchington Water Co. The four samples were each satisfactory.

Difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a supply of tapwater to seven houses on the Cliff's End Estate, near Ramsgate, but during the year the Water Company's mains have been extended so that it is now possible for branch water pipes to be laid on this estate, and notices have therefore been served on each of the owners to carry out this work.

#### MINSTER SEWAGE FARM.

The farm is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. An engineer, a labourer and an apprentice are appointed by the Council, and are fully employed. During the year the usual crops of hay, wurtzel and lavender were grown.

The question of the disposal of the refuse which is collected in the parish of Minster and deposited here, received special attention during the year. A man was engaged to sort and burn the refuse and bale the tins. The screened ashes are being used to improve the road leading to the farm. I have been unable, so far, to find a purchaser for the baled tins. This work has improved the appearance of the farm and rid it of rats.

I am glad to report that the Hornsby Oil Engines are working very satisfactorily, thanks, in a very great measure, to the care displayed by the engineer.

#### SEWERAGE.

The following parishes in the district are sewered :—

*Westgate-on-Sea and Minster.*—The remaining portion of the district is not sewered. The sewage at Westgate is pumped into the Margate mains and turned out to sea at the Cliftonville end of the town.

During the year there were two extensions of the sewer in Westgate owing to building developments.

The parish of Minster has a sewage farm, about  $9\frac{1}{2}$  acres in extent; the sewage flows by gravitation to a large wall and is then pumped into tanks, after which the effluent is turned on to the land by means of distributing chambers and ultimately discharged into the River Stour.

## TYPES OF CLOSETS IN THE DISTRICT.

At the present time there are about 2167 closets, and 741 pail closets, privies, etc., in the district. The type of closets now allowed to be erected are water closets and pail closets.

The Council do not undertake the emptying of cesspools; notices are served upon the owners to do the work which at times gives rise to a great deal of trouble and nuisance. It is desirable that the question of sewerage scheme for the parish of Birchington should be seriously considered as most of the cesspools are not water-tight and the sewage is allowed to percolate into the chalk.

In the centre of the town cesspools are near to houses and where yards or gardens are small, the ground becomes saturated with sewage, and at times it has proved difficult to know how to deal in the matter.

In February 1923 I submitted a special report to the District Council respecting the dwelling houses in Birchington where privies and pail closets were in use.

There were 50 privies for 58 dwelling houses, and 99 pail closets for 104 dwelling houses. The work of converting these earth closets into water closets has been going on very satisfactorily. Progress is, however, not as rapid as one would desire, but owing to the increasing amount of work devolving upon the inspector (not only in Westgate and Birchington—two progressive seaside resorts—but in the remaining parishes of the district) and the inconvenience caused by the work being carried out in the “height of the season” it is satisfactory to record that the above numbers have been reduced to 6 privies and 55 pail closets. In cases where one privy or pail closet was used by the inmates of two houses a separate water closet was provided to each house.

In one instance an owner of a large number of cottages is slowly carrying out improved sanitary work.

\* There are some houses without through ventilation, but there are no actual back-to-back houses in the district.

## SCAVENGING.

The removal of house refuse is carried out in the parishes of Westgate-on-sea, Birchington, Minster, Garlinge and Manston. Contractors are appointed by the Council of each parish to do the work under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

The refuse is removed weekly from the two former parishes. In the remaining parishes there is a monthly collection but during the months of June to September, a fortnightly collection is made in Minster and Garlinge. In addition to the weekly collection in Westgate-on-Sea, more frequent visits are made during the season to the hotels, schools, fish shops and large boarding houses. Two 4-wheel modern dustcarts are constantly in use there. No. 2 dustcart was repaired and repainted early in the year.

Regarding the collection in Birchington I prepared a scheme whereby the refuse was collected systematically with, I am glad to say, satisfactory results. A new 2-wheel modern dustcart was purchased and has proved useful.

This work consists of the removal of house refuse and trade refuse. No charge is made in any of the parishes for the removal of trade or shop refuse.

There is a satisfactory system of refuse collection in nearly every parish.

The amount of house refuse appears to be on the increase, which is almost entirely due to the abnormal amount of paper and other light material put into the ashbin. It is difficult to understand the attitude of householders

on this question, as it tends to increase the rates for this work, yet householders will insist on having this material removed to the tip instead of utilising it as a fuel, when by so doing they could reduce their coal bill and also bring about a substantial reduction in the rates. The custom which has been in vogue for some years in Westgate and Birchington whereby the dustmen *enter* the premises and carry the dustbins to the cart, is one which should receive early consideration of those parish councils. Such a system necessitates both additional time and labour being given to the work, particularly so when the houses have long gardens and narrow footways to the street. If the dustbins were placed in the streets at the front of the houses (as is the custom in most towns) this would result in a much greater reduction in the rates. The refuse collected in the parishes of Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington is tipped on land adjoining brickfields in the former parish, and about a mile and a half from the centre of each town. These two Councils pay one hundred pounds per annum towards the cost of sorting and burning the refuse. This has resulted to a great extent in the diminution of the rat population at the tip and the discontinuance of complaints from local residents.

### TABULAR STATEMENT REGARDING INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Inspections.	Total No. of Inspections made.	Total No. of Notices served.		Result of Notices served.			
		Statutory.	Informal.	Statutory.		Informal.	
				Complied with.	Outstanding.	Complied with.	Outstanding.
Dwelling-houses and other premises under the P.H. & H. Acts. ...	372	21	91	12	9	84	7
Re-inspections and visits - ditto ...	619	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ...	306	1	37	—	1	37	—
Factories and Workshops ...	62	—	6	—	—	6	—
Slaughter-houses & Butchers' Premises	273	—	27	—	—	27	—
Re Infectious Diseases ...	82						
Under Rats and Mice Act ...	251						
Under Petroleum Acts ...	44						
Number of Visits to Minster Sewage Farm ...	17						
Number of Meetings attended ...	29						
Number of Letters sent ...	503						
Number of Complaints received ...	64						

# DESCRIPTION OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT AFTER NOTICES TO OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS.

## ASHPITS.

Portable ash-receptacles provided	...	...	85
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	----

## PAIL CLOSETS.

New ones provided	...	...	...	...	Nil
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

## DRAINS.

No. of premises where new drains were laid or old drains re-constructed	...	...	...	...	32
New cesspools built	...	...	...	...	9
Cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	32
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	19
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	20

## WATER CLOSETS.

Provided with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	...	23
Limewashed or cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Provided in lieu of earth closets	...	...	...	...	21
Repaired	...	...	...	...	7
New pans provided	...	...	...	...	2
New flush pipes fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Light and ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	20
New cisterns fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	28
New water closets provided	...	...	...	...	5

## HOUSES.

Means of ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	10
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	9
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	3
Water spouts fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	9
New sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	8
New trapped waste pipes fixed to sinks and baths	...	...	...	...	11
Accumulation of manure or refuse removed	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisance abated arising from the keeping of swine and other animals	...	...	...	...	6
Yards cemented or repaired	...	...	...	...	6
New floors laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Provided with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	...	8
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous work not classified above	...	...	...	...	37

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of registered cowkeepers and purveyors of milk (17 as cowkeepers only, 6 as cowkeepers and purveyors, and 7 as purveyors only)	...	...	...	...	17
Number of cowsheds	...	...	...	...	57
Number of milkshops	...	...	...	...	5
Number of cowkeepers and purveyors discontinued	...	...	...	...	3
Number registered during the year	...	...	...	...	7
Number of inspections made to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	...	...	306
Approximate number of milking cows kept in the district	...	...	...	...	878

During the year the following improvements have been carried out at the following dairy premises, viz. :—

Birchington (P).—Dairy extended and improved and large bottling and sterilising plant provided.

Minster (P).—Stable converted into modern cowshed.

Manston (P).—New and improved dairy erected.

Garlinge (F).—New modern shed erected, cowsheds and yard drained, privy converted into water closet and proper drainage provided.

Minster (S).—Floor of cowshed re-laid with concrete.

I am glad to report that greater care is being exercised by cowkeepers and dairymen in the production of clean milk. All the premises are kept in a fairly clean condition, and the regulations generally are strictly complied with. Sufficient attention is not, however, given to the grooming of cows before milking, which is most important, and without which it is almost impossible to obtain clean milk. The younger generation of milkers are showing a greater interest and intelligence in this important industry. It has not been necessary to revoke any licence granted to a milk purveyor, but in my opinion some such measures should be taken against dilatory and unsatisfactory producers of milk.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

These regulations came into operation on the 1st April. The Council decided, and advertised, that Notice as to Slaughtering should be given to the Sanitary Inspector. A copy of the regulations was sent (together with a circular letter calling special attention to certain sections) to each butcher and provision dealer in the district.

Notices have been duly sent in by the butchers, and as far as possible the carcasses and offal have been examined, either at the slaughter-house or at the retail premises. No system of marking the meat has been inaugurated in this district. All premises where meat, as defined in the regulations, is stored have been inspected, and at certain premises improvements have been carried out, more particularly with regard to sanitary conditions and ventilation of food stores. Some difficulty is being experienced with regard to the prevention of contamination of the meat in shops from flies, mud, filth, etc., where no fixed windows are in use, but I am hoping that persuasion will bring about such a desirable improvement.

#### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

A licence was renewed to a cowkeeper for the production of Grade A (Tuberculin tested) milk on his farm, and in conjunction with this three applications were received from purveyors for licences to sell this milk. They were renewed for another year. Nine samples of milk from this farm were bacteriologically examined and bacillus coli. was present in three of the samples.

The Sanitary Inspector requested an improved arrangement in bottling the milk, which resulted in four subsequent samples being free from bacillus coli. and containing a very low number of bacteria.

This farm, and the dairy where the milk is bottled, are frequently inspected and are kept in an exceptionally clean condition. One of the above milk purveyors also applied for, and was granted, a licence to sell "Certified" milk. He obtained this milk from a producer in an adjoining town who held a licence from the Ministry of Health to sell such milk.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS.

During the year 17 samples of milk were obtained formally by me as Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts. These included two taken "in course of delivery" at the Manston Aerodrome from a retailer residing in Margate. Sixteen were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine milk. The remaining sample was certified to be adulterated with 8.1 per cent of added water. The milk purveyor (who is also a cowkeeper) was prosecuted and convicted, and fined two guineas and three guineas costs.

The average composition of the 16 genuine samples was as follows : Milk fat, 3.4 per cent; solids, not fat, 8.8 per cent. Two of the samples were most probably afternoon milk. This average is slightly lower than last year's, although it is evident that the minimum standard (3 per cent and 8.5 per cent) set by the Board of Agriculture in their regulations, is attainable by the cowkeepers in this district.

I also purchased seven informal samples, viz., two of butter and one each of lard, margarine, white pepper, camphorated oil and malt vinegar, which proved to be genuine.

All the samples of milk analysed were found to be free from preservatives.

#### SEAWEED.

During the year I was instructed to take steps, when necessary, for the removal of seaweed from the foreshores of Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington. When an accumulation occurred I immediately communicated with farmers and market gardeners, but invariably found that they were too busy to remove the weed, which, during the hot weather, became very offensive and caused complaints to be made by visitors, particularly in Birchington. A difficulty at the latter place is caused by the steep and unpaved road at the Beresford Gap. The Parish Council, however, have made arrangements for its improvement as soon as possible.

#### CARAVANS, MINNIS BAY.

Complaints were made to the Birchington Parish Council of the unsuitable position and lack of proper sanitary conveniences, etc., and as a result of my conversations with the occupiers they undertook to carry out improvements in the following spring which would be satisfactory to the Council.

#### CAMPS.

During the summer a large number of persons, and especially batches of Boy Scouts, Church Lads Brigades, etc., used certain grounds for camping purposes. I advise and make periodical visits as to sanitary requirements, and with two or three exceptions found them to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

#### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are three in the district, one situate at Manston in the vicinity of the Royal Air Force Camp, one in Minster, and one in Birchington. These premises were periodically inspected, and with one exception were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. Notices served on the occupier of the premises in Birchington resulted in an improvement taking place. No complaints were received of any nuisance arising therefrom.

#### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Number of slaughter-houses in the district ... .. 9

All licensed annually. No change of occupation occurred during the year. They are situated as follows :—

2 in Birchington,  
2 in Minster,  
2 in Sarre,  
1 in Stonar,  
1 in St. Nicholas, and  
1 in Westgate.

			In 1920,		In Jan., 1925.		In Dec., 1925
Registered	...	...	6	...	—	...	—
Licensed	...	...	—	...	9	...	9
			—		—		—
Total	...	...	6	...	9	...	9

The Council, during the year 1920, applied for and obtained Urban Powers relating to the licensing, etc., of slaughter-houses, and also made bye-laws which were approved by the Ministry of Health in September, 1920.

Number of inspections made (slaughter-houses) ... 201

Number of inspections made (butchers' shops) ... 72

Five of the premises are old, and although not constructed on modern lines, they are kept in a fairly clean and satisfactory condition, as are the other four slaughter-houses, which are almost new buildings with adequate open space around.

It is impossible, although desirable, for me alone to adequately examine all the carcasses in the slaughter-houses and butchers' shops in six scattered parishes of a rural district, but owing to the clerical assistance provided me I have been able to do more in this direction.

*Amount of Food condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.*

Beef	...	...	...	...	26 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	...	82 lbs.
Pork	...	...	...	...	177 lbs.
Total					285 lbs.

The whole of the above meat was surrendered to me and destroyed by burying or burning it. No legal proceedings were necessary.

#### DISINFECTION.

Total number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	99
Total number of vanloads of bedding, clothing, etc., steam disinfected	...	...	...	43
Number of mattresses and beds steam disinfected	...	...	...	96
Number of articles of bed clothing steam disinfected	...	...	...	563
Number of personal articles of clothing steam disinfected	...	...	...	359

#### RENT RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 AND 1923.

One application was received during the year from an occupier of a dwelling-house in Minster for a sanitary survey under the above Acts.

I inspected the premises and recommended the Council to grant a certificate, which was agreed to.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

Number of premises on the register at the end of the year :—

Boot repairing	...	...	13	Painters	...	...	...	7
Blacksmiths	...	...	9	Milliners	...	...	...	2
Joinery and carpentry	...	...	15	Watch repairing	...	...	...	2
Retail bakehouses	...	...	7	Plumbers	...	...	...	8
Laundries	...	...	8	Tailors	...	...	...	5
Cycle and motor repairing	...	...	10	Saddlers	...	...	...	3
Cabinet makers & upholsterers	...	...	7	Tinsmiths	...	...	...	2
Dressmakers	...	...	4	Cement block makers	...	...	...	2
Basket makers	...	...	2	Shipbreaking	...	...	...	1
Sign writer	...	...	1	Workplaces	...	...	...	5
Total			...	...	...	113	...	...
Workshops	...	...	97	Workplaces	...	...	...	5
Factories	...	...	11					

Total number of inspections made ... 62

Number of notices of occupation received from H.M.

Inspector ... 2

Ditto, *re* sanitary matters ... Nil

There is one underground bakehouse in Westgate-on-Sea.

	Total.	Factories.	Retail Bakehouses.	Workplaces, Restaurants, etc.	Other work-shops.
Number inspected	43	3	9	2	29
Number of inspections	62	3	20	3	36

## NOTICES SERVED.

				Defects Found.	Defects Remedied.
Want of cleanliness and limewashing ...	...	...	...	5	5
Want of ventilation	...	...	...	—	—
Overcrowding	...	...	...	—	—
Drainage of wetfloors	...	...	...	—	—
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable, insufficient or defective	...	...	...	1	1

## HOMEWORK (Secs. 107 to 115).

No lists of outworkers were received during the year from employers within the district. The name of one outworker, residing in Westgate-on-Sea, was sent by an employer at Cricklewood, the premises were inspected and found satisfactory.

## INSPECTION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

ST. LAWRENCE EXTRA  
C. of E.WESTGATE-ON-SEA  
C. of E.

	MIXED AND INFANTS		MIXED AND INFANTS
Buildings	Brick, slate roofs Good	—	Brick; tile roofs; good walls, first floor plastered, others rough brick
Playground	Mostly unpaved and unsatisfactory (Girls) Boys—asphalt	Infants share with girls	Part unpaved—gravel girls and infants; boys asphalt
Sanitary conveniences	Girls 3. Av. att. 87. Boys 2 and urinal. Av. att. 90.	Infants 4. Av. att. 48	Girls and infants 6, and urinal. Av. att. 137. Boys 4 and urinal Av. att. 120
Water supply	Tap over W.H. basins in cloak-rooms	—	Tap over W.H. basins in cloakrooms
Lavatories and cloakrooms	W.H. basins No heating. Insufficient number of pegs in Mixed Dept.	—	W.H. basins. No heating. Boys' small and inadequate; only about 80 pegs
Cleanliness	Clean. Red brick dado	Rough walls dis-tempered	Floors dirty. Scrubbed each half-year only
Ventilation	Good	—	Good
Lighting	Good	—	Good
Heating	Fireplaces normally sufficient and stoves	—	Fireplaces satisfactory
General	Flush cisterns not always satisfactory	—	Conveniences not very clean

INSPECTION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL  
DISTRICT—(continued).

BIRCHINGTON C. of E.

ST. NICHOLAS-AT-  
WADDE C. of E.

	BOYS	GIRLS	INFANTS	MIXED AND INFANTS.
Buildings	Old brick and tile roof	Brick and tile roof. Very good	—	Flint stone, and tile roof
Playground	Gravel	Part asphalt Very defective & dangerous & remainder gravel	Asphalt. Very good	Asphalt. Very good
Sanitary conveniences	3 trough closets & urinal Av. att. 120	6 trough closets & 1 tank Very dirty. Av. att. 90	6 trough closets & 1 tank fairly clean, and urinal. Av. att. 77	3 pail closets and urinal for boys; 3 pail closets for girls
Water supply	Tap in playground only	Taps over W.H. basins in cloakrooms	—	Tap in boys' playground only
Lavatories and cloakrooms	Nil. 3 small cloakrooms—very inadequate and dirty	4 W.H. basins & sink; Pegs numbered & sufficient but bottom row too low	2 W.H. basins and a sink in cloakroom Pegs numbered and sufficient	Girls' cloakroom very dark. 3 enamelled bowls in washstands in boys' cloakroom. None for girls and infants. Very unsatisfactory and insufficient
Cleanliness	Fairly clean	Fairly clean	Fairly clean	Very dusty and only fairly clean throughout
Ventilation	Insufficient	Very good	—	Appears satisfactory
Lighting	Fairly good	Very good	—	Appears satisfactory
Heating	2 fireplaces and stoves, 1 stove defective	Fireplaces not adequate in cold weather	—	Stoves—sufficient
General	Large rooms lofty and cold	No teachers' rooms	—	Wood floor of main room laid on earth only, part defective, loose and unsatisfactory. Flint walls in boys' cloakroom should be cemented

## INSPECTION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT—(continued).

MINSTER C. of E.

MONKTON C. of E.

	INFANTS	MIXED	MIXED AND INFANTS.
Buildings	Ragstone and slate roof	Brick and slate roof. Very good	Brick, and slate roof
Playground	Cemented and asphalt. Good	Asphalt Good	Gravel and part cemented
Sanitary conveniences	5 trough closets and 2 urinals clean and satisfactory. Av. att. 84.	Girls 5 troughs Boys 3 troughs and urinal. Av. att. Girls 71, Boys 97	2 blocks of pedestal W.C.'s with separate flushes for girls and boys, and urinal. Girls 37. Boys 52.
Water supply	Tap in yard and cups provided	Tap over W.H. basins	Tap over W.H. basin in small building in playground for boys—ditto for girls and infants
Lavatories and cloakrooms	Bowls used 3 cloakrooms against entrances sufficient	2 in each cloak-room, red glazed bricks, numbered pegs, no heating Very good	3 small cloakrooms adjoining entrances to school—one used as a store also
Cleanliness	Clean	Fairly clean	Fairly clean
Ventilation	Good	Excellent	Good
Lighting	Good	Excellent	Infants' room rather dark
Heating	Fireplace and stoves and 5 radiators in large room	Fireplaces—sufficient	Fireplaces sufficient except in infants' room
General	Windows at back in Standard I. room should be lowered	Both cloakrooms not clean	Infants classroom faces North and is very cold and draughty

## HOUSING.

During the year an increasing amount of work has been carried out, but chiefly under the Public Health Acts. No houses have been built by the Council during the year, but subsidies or grants have been made to builders or owner-occupiers. 73 houses have been erected by local builders, but only a few can be said to be suitable for the working classes.

In December, as instructed by the District Council, I submitted a special report on the housing conditions in the parish of Acol. As this parish is situate less than one mile from the Birchington housing site, the Council resolved, after due consideration, to erect an additional 12 houses, which would meet the needs of Acol.

There is a great shortage of houses, more particularly for the working classes, and in consequence many cases of overcrowding exist—two or more families living in one dwelling-house. There are also several old properties in nearly every parish which should be closed, and either thoroughly repaired or demolished, but owing to the lack of accommodation the tenants are having to continue to live in such undesirable houses.

This rural district, which is semi-urban in character, comprises two small developing seaside resorts, viz., Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington, and eight other parishes. As the district abuts on to the important seaside resorts of Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate, there is a growing tendency for persons working in the latter towns to migrate to this district and occupy houses which should be inhabited by the rural workers.

Comparing this district with larger towns, I consider the question of housing is not quite so acute, although there is a shortage for the following reasons :—

(1) Birchington and Westgate-on-Sea are growing in popularity, and as retired people build and reside here, more work is provided but no additional houses are built to accommodate the increased working population. The Council, about five years ago, purchased a site at Birchington of about six acres on which eight houses are nearly completed, and tenders are being invited for twelve further houses to be built thereon.

During the past year a site to accommodate eight houses was also acquired at Westgate-on-Sea, and these houses are now in course of erection; also negotiations for the purchase of another site of four acres are proceeding at Westgate-on-Sea.

It is probable that the sites, which will allow for a total of about 124 houses, will be fully utilised in due course.

(2) In Minster the Council acquired a site for a block of four houses which are now in course of erection. It is hoped that if the sites at Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington are fully utilised that the housing shortage for the whole of the district will be materially lessened, because the remaining parishes are not far distant therefrom. I have found that a large number of the dilapidated cottages are occupied by elderly people, and if closing orders are served, and proceedings taken to obtain possession, the tenants very reluctantly have to go to the Workhouse, as they have no relations or friends who can accommodate them. The recent survey made by Professor Abercrombie with reference to mining operations in East Kent shows that parts of this district will be affected by the influx of miners and others, but I understand that a scheme is being considered to deal with the increased population. The question of overcrowding is a difficult one to answer; there are several cases of two or more families residing in one house, particularly in the working class districts of Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington, but if one considers the number of inmates of one family residing in a four-roomed cottage, then there is a fair amount of overcrowding in the whole district.

(3) Some of the present householders in this district will remove to the larger towns (where they work) when houses are built to meet the needs of those towns. There are no unfit houses in Westgate-on-Sea, but in Birchington and in each of the other parishes there are several houses which will be condemned when the shortage is not so acute. Also there are several houses, although old, are being repaired mainly under the Public Health Acts. The villages of St. Nicholas, Sarre, Manston, Acol and Monkton, and the outlying portions of the parish of Garlinge are mainly rural in character. Each village has a number of very old and unsuitable cottages, but the shortage is not so acute in these places as there is a tendency for the workers to transfer themselves to the towns, because of the improved social conditions and higher wages paid. Very little housing work appears to have been carried out in the villages of this Rural District previous to the war. The oldest houses have mostly thatched roofs, small and low-pitched rooms, lack of adequate window space leading to want of light and air, and dampness of walls and floors. Most of the walls are built of flint stones, wood and brick; there is an absence of guttering and paving of yard; defective roofs, no sinks or drains, tap water in the garden, and in many cases common

to several houses. One redeeming feature is that each parish (except Sarre, now under consideration) is supplied with good drinking water from the local towns mains.

The work of improving the old cottages is very slow, labour is scarce and materials expensive, and in a large number of cases owners do not consider it worth while to spend any money on making them satisfactory. They prefer to close them altogether as dwellings.

The fact that the Agricultural Wages Act stipulates that a rent of not more than 3s. per week shall be charged for the house occupied by the men employed at the farms detracts from any improvements being carried out, and therefore such cottages have gone, and are going, into disrepair as a result.

The houses are not in congested areas (as in towns), and my experience of 17 years as a sanitary inspector in this district and in two large towns convinces me that the rural occupier is not so neglectful as his town neighbour: he makes the best of his less fortunate position.

In the towns of Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington, where the rents are collected chiefly by house agents, there is frequently a greater lack of proper management than where the houses are supervised directly by the owners.

Four notices to abate overcrowding have been complied with, but it is impracticable to serve notices except in very gross cases, as it may happen that the persons quit the premises and occupy other unknown premises where the conditions are even worse. There are several instances of newly married couples who are compelled (often against their wish) to reside with parents, who perhaps already have insufficient accommodation for their own family.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	73
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	18
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	0	
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	18	

#### 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

##### *Inspection.*

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	161
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	12
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	8
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	75

#### 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	41
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#### 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

##### A. Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	0
(a) By owners	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ..	0
<i>B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	5
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	9
<i>C. Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :</i>	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to making of closing orders ... ..	8
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..	8
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ..	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..	3
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders (voluntarily) ... ..	1

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The average number of cases of Diphtheria notified each year during the five years ended 1925 was 30, and of Scarlet Fever 22.

During the years 1921 and 1922 somewhat serious outbreaks of these diseases occurred in the parishes of Birchington, Acol and St. Lawrence Extra, the children living in the Cottage Homes of the Isle of Thanet Union at Manston contributing a large number of the cases, but during the last three years the number of cases of these diseases notified in the district has been small.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the office of the sanitary inspector and also by a firm of chemists at their premises in Birchington and Westgate.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively in the rural district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox) Prevention Regulations, 1917, during the past five years.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a public elementary school the head teacher concerned is informed by the Medical Officer of Health and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. He visits the schools and takes any action which he considers necessary.

The average number of deaths registered in the Rural District from Influenza was 5.8. No deaths have been registered during the period from Encephalitis Lethargica.

There are no facilities available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings, other than for tramps at the Poor Law Institution, Minster. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

An outbreak of Measles occurred in the parish of St. Lawrence Extra in March, 1925, and some cases of Whooping Cough in the autumn, the infant department of the Church of England School being chiefly affected. An outbreak of whooping cough occurred in the parish of Monkton during June, affecting the scholars in the Church of England School. This school was closed in January for Influenza.

Easter

The only outbreak of infectious disease of any importance which occurred in the district during the year was one of Paratyphoid B., which took place in May among the scholars of a private school ten days after their return from the ~~Whitsuntide~~ <sup>two</sup> holiday. Twenty-one boys were affected and they all recovered. None of the masters or domestic staff contracted the complaint. A thorough investigation of the outbreak was made by the Medical Officer of Health, who wrote special reports to the Council, and Dr. W. P. Yetts, a medical officer of the Ministry of Health, visited the school and remained for some days in the neighbourhood carrying out researches. Every possible source of infection was investigated. It did not seem possible that a "carrier" could have been the cause, the water and milk supply were above suspicion, the drainage of the premises was in good order, and one was forced to the conclusion that a particular cheese obtained from Italy and consumed at one meal a few days after the school had re-assembled was the means whereby the infection was introduced. The patients were ~~all~~ isolated and treated in a house in the grounds attached to the school.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Diseases.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	11	11	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	6	6	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...			22		
Pneumonia	...	...	...	6		
Erysipelas	...	...	...	4		
Encephalitis Lethargica	...		...	1		
Total	...	...	...	50	17	

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1925 IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

Disease.	Number of Cases Notified ...											
	Under 1 year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever ...		1			1	2	3	2	2			
Diphtheria ...						3	1	1	1			
Enteric Fever...						5	16	1				
Pneumonia ...						1	2				2	1
Erysipelas ...							1			2	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica										1		
Total ...		1			1	11	23	4	3	3	3	1

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..								
1 ... ..			1	1			1	
5 ... ..			1	3				
10 ... ..	1	1	3	3				1
15 ... ..		1			1			
20 ... ..	2	4				1		
25 ... ..	3	2		1	3	1		
35 ... ..	3	3				1		
45 ... ..	2			1		1		
55 ... ..	2				1	1		1
65 and upwards	1							
Total ... ..	14	11	5	9	5	5	1	2

In addition to the above new cases, there was one case of Pulmonary, aged 29, which was not notified but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns. This case was registered in the Isle of Thanet Rural District, but should really have been credited to the Borough of Margate.

**BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water) ... ..	2,767 acres
Population (Census, 1911) ... ..	8,929
Population (Census, 1911) as adjusted for increase in area in 1914 ... ..	9,921
Population (Census, 1921) ... ..	15,471
Population, 1925 (R.G.) ... ..	11,280
Population (estimated 1925) ... ..	18,390
Number of inhabited houses (1921) ... ..	2,556
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) ... ..	2,637
Rateable value of the Urban District ... ..	£128,254
Amount produced by a penny rate ... ..	£500
Structurally separate dwellings (1921) ... ..	2,388

Adoptive Acts in Force in the district :—

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts 2, 3 and 4.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907—

Parts 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 (with the exceptions of Secs. 15, 16, 18, 27, 32, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 54 and 94).

Local Acts in force in the district :—

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Water and Improvement Act 1901.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Water Act, 1907.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1913.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923.

Poor Law.—Cost of out-relief for the parish of St. Peter during the year ended 31st March, 1926 ... .. £837

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births*      Male    52    (Legitimate 50, Illegitimate 2)  
                  Female 51    (Legitimate 47, Illegitimate 4)

Total    103

Birth Rate (R.G.), 9.13.      Birth Rate (E. and W.), 18.3.

*Deaths* (Civilians only)    Male    59  
    Female 70

Total    ~~169~~ 129

Death Rate (R.G.), 11.43.      Death Rate (E. and W.), 12.2.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis, Nil.

From other causes, Nil.

*Deaths of Infants under one year :*

Legitimate, Male    3

Illegitimate, Male    —

Legitimate, Female 4

Illegitimate, Female —

Total      ...    7

Infant Mortality Rate :—      (England and Wales 75).

Total, 67 per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate, — per 1,000 registered births.

Illegitimate, — per 1,000 registered births.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 2.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.

## BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1914	...	13.29	...	8.95	...	81
1915	...	10.76	...	11.35	...	33
1916	...	12.37	...	10.12	...	24
1917	...	11.41	...	15.10	...	120
1918	...	10.79	...	16.59	...	89
1919	...	11.75	...	14.33	...	53
1920	...	12.59	...	8.14	...	64
1921	...	11.41	...	10.42	...	23
1922	...	12.01	...	10.39	...	22
1923	...	11.45	...	9.55	...	47
1924	...	10.95	...	11.92	...	56
1925	...	9.13	...	11.43	...	67

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

1914	...	23.8	...	14.0	...	105
1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83
1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT, 1925.

					MALES.	FEMALES.
Civilians only.	All Causes	...	...	...	59	70
1.	Enteric Fever	...	...	...		
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...		
3.	Measles	...	...	...		
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...		
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	1
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...		
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	4	5
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	1
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...		
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	5	2
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...		
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	5	13
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...		
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	2
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	5	5
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	10	17
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	4	2
18.	Bronchitis	...	...	...		2
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	4	3
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	1	2
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...		
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...		
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	1	
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...		1
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...		1
26.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...		
27.	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...		
28.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	2	1
29.	Suicide	...	...	...		
30.	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	3	1
31.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	11	11
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	1	
Special causes (included above)						
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...		

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

In order to cope with the increasing demands made on the water supply of the district owing to the steady growth of the population, the Council in 1924 decided to provide a new and efficient pumping plant at Rumfields Waterworks and to erect an elevated reservoir so as to increase the pressure of the water supplied throughout the district and to provide for a greatly increased storage of water, also to enlarge the water softening plant. Accordingly the old steam pumping plant has been removed and an up-to-date pumping installation provided, consisting of two Ruston and Hornsby's 3-cylinder heavy oil engines of 165 h.p. each, with Mather and Platts high lift and deep well turbine pumps for raising the water from the Rumfields well, and pumping plant for filling the elevated reservoir with the softened water at the rate of 60,000 gallons per hour. There are two electric pumps for supplementing the supply to the softening plant. The buildings are lighted by electricity generated on the premises. An underground reinforced concrete tank of 300,000 gallons capacity is provided at the base of the concrete tower, and at a height of 100 feet is provided a concrete

tank of 250,000 gallons capacity. The water softening plant has been enlarged so as to provide softened water at the rate of 60,000 gallons per hour instead of 30,000 gallons per hour, as formerly.

#### REMOVAL OF MANURE.

Owing to numerous complaints the Council made an order under Sec. 50 of the P.H.A., 1875, requiring the occupiers of stables, etc., to remove the manure once at least in every three days before 9 o'clock in the morning. The result of this action has been a very marked improvement in the condition of stable yards.

#### HOUSING.

Considerable progress is being made towards providing houses for the working class. The Urban District Council have commenced to build 44 houses on the Beacon Road site. A loan of £3,000 to provide £100 subsidies for 30 houses has been obtained and another loan for the same amount applied for in respect of a further 30 houses. Sixteen houses are being erected under the 1924 Act by private enterprise with financial assistance by way of subsidy. When these houses are completed the housing shortage in the district should be considerably eased. Dealing with local housing conditions, it appears to be a matter for regret that the advantage of a subsidy under the 1923 Act is not taken greater advantage of by existing residents. The majority of the new houses purchased under this scheme are being occupied by residents new to the district, which does not assist local conditions in the least.

#### PARTICULARS OF WORK CARRIED OUT TO ABATE NUISANCES.

Nuisances from keeping of animals (abated)	...	...	7
Drains repaired	...	...	97
Defective roofs, etc., repaired	...	...	48
Repairs inside houses	...	...	56
Water closets repaired	...	...	37
Yard paving repaired	...	...	16
New dustbins	...	...	43
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	10
Verminous houses sprayed	...	...	15
Cesspools emptied	...	...	17
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	53

The following is a statement of the number of premises visited during the year :—

Dwelling-houses inspected and re-inspected	...	...	718
Bakehouses	...	...	53
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	79
Slaughter-houses	...	...	176
Factories, workshops and workplaces	...	...	52
Infectious disease	...	...	348
Food shops	...	...	44
Drain smoke tests	...	...	20
Drain water tests	...	...	48
Other inspections	...	...	543
Water samples taken	...	...	42
Milk samples taken (certified)	...	...	6
Sale of Food and Drugs samples	...	...	8
Total	...	...	2,137

## DISINFECTION.

The amount of disinfecting done is rapidly increasing owing to the growth of the district and the greater attention paid by the public. It is very gratifying to see that the necessity for disinfection and preventive measures is being so generally recognised.

The disinfection of the whole of the bedding of a large convalescent home was undertaken after an outbreak of Scarlet Fever. This experience showed that the present steam disinfector is not adequate to deal expeditiously with a large amount of work, and the report of the inspection by the boiler inspector is that the machine is showing signs of wear. It is also found that the present accommodation for handling the bedding is insufficient.

## FOOD.

The six slaughter-houses were regularly inspected and found to be kept in order. Two complaints were made of breaches of the Meat Regulations, and on these being pointed out they were remedied at once. The system of notification of disease and payment of compensation by the insurance association on the certificate of the Sanitary Inspector is very satisfactory.

## MILK.

Three retailers are licensed to sell milk as " Certified " and " Grade A." Six samples of certified milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and the results were satisfactory.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Samples of food were submitted for analysis as follows :—

New milk	...	Genuine	Fair
"	...	"	"
"	...	"	Good
"	...	"	"
Coffee	...	"	
Cocoa	...	"	
Preserved cream		"	

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	16	2	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	30	—	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	6	—	—
Total ... ..	52	2	—

# DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of defects			No. of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	1	1	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	1	1	—	—
Sanitary accommodation :				
Insufficient ... ..	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	4	4	Nil.	Nil.

## INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

	ST. PETER'S (BOYS) C. of E.	ST. PETER'S (GIRLS and INFANTS) C. of E.
Buildings	Brick and slate. Old	Brick and slate. Fairly new. Walls unplastered
Playground	Small	Adequate
Sanitary conveniences	5 trough closets. Foul	Trough closets, W.C.'s and urinal. Foul
Water supply	Town water	Town water
Lavatories, cloakrooms	Inadequate	Adequate
Cleanliness	Dirty	Dirty walls
Ventilation	Inadequate	Adequate
Lighting	Badly arranged	Adequate
Heating	Fires inadequate	Fires—inadequate
General	This is an old building and is not, and cannot be made, suitable for modern requirements	Fairly new building but not of modern design. Walls unplastered and dirty. Sanitary conveniences dirty

## INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS—(Continued).

	READING ST. (INFANTS) C. of E.	TRINITY (BOYS) C. of E.	COUNCIL, (GIRLS and INFANTS)
Buildings	Brick and slate	Brick and slate. Walls bulging and gutters defective. Walls damp	Brick and tile—modern
Playground	Adequate	Small and enclosed	Large open
Sanitary conveniences	Water closets adequate	Water closets and urinal compartment dirty and dilapidated	Water closet—adequate
Water supply	Town water	Town water	Town water
Lavatories cloakrooms	Dark	Dirty	Adequate
Cleanliness	Fair	Dirty	Clean
Ventilation	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate
Lighting	Adequate	Badly arranged	Adequate
Heating	Open fires	Hot water	Hot water—adequate
General	A small old building but adequate for present use	The school consists of one large fairly new room and other old classrooms. The whole are badly arranged, dirty and dilapidated, and are quite unsuitable for modern requirements	A modern school in all respects and kept in good order

## HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	95
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—						
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil	
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	9	

## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

*Inspection.*

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	485
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	...	...	35
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	1

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	35
2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	173
3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.	
(A) Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 ...	Nil
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
By owners ... ..	2
By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(C) Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15, of the Housing Act, 1925 :	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders ... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ..	Nil

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The average number of cases of Diphtheria notified each year during the five years ended 1925 was 22, and of Scarlet Fever was 30.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the office of the Sanitary Inspector and at the Police Station.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively in the Urban District.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, during the past five years.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a public elementary school the head teacher concerned is informed by the Medical Officer of Health and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. Children who have been suffering from infectious disease or contacts with them are not allowed to return to school without a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health given under Sec. 57 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

The average number of deaths registered in the Urban District from Influenza was 5.8. Two deaths occurred from Encephalitis Lethargica during the past five years. These were registered in 1925.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

St. Peter's Reading Street Infant Department was closed in January and February owing to an outbreak of Whooping Cough. The only outbreak of infectious disease of importance during the year was one which occurred in August and September at a convalescent home, 12 cases of Scarlet Fever being notified. I examined all the children in the home with the medical officer, and we found a member of the nursing staff who was in the peeling stage of the disease. Her attack had been so mild that she had not been off duty, *as it had not been recognized.*

43 cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year and two cases of Enteric Fever. It was impossible to trace the source of infection in either of these cases.

There are no facilities available in the Urban District for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons. The disinfection of premises and articles is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

With regard to the two cases of Polio-Encephalitis which were notified during the year, the first occurred in a family who had taken a furnished house and was the sister of a child who was ill at the same time and who died, the death being attributed to Influenza. Another child in the family, who had been in contact with these two, developed the disease in another part of England after he had been sent away. The second case was notified in a private house. The first case, which was a mild one, was isolated and nursed at home, and recovered. The second one, which was very serious, was removed to the Joint Hospital and died four days afterwards.

#### METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS.

Hours of sunshine recorded during the year was 1,725.6.

Inches of rainfall recorded during the year was 23.7.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	32	21	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	18	12	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	2	1	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	43	1	7
Erysipelas	...	...	...	10	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	3	1	2
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	141	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	2	1	—
Total	...	...	...	251	37	9

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1925 IN THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever ...					2	16	8	3	3			
Diphtheria ...				1	2	8	5	2				
Enteric Fever...									2			
Pneumonia ...	6	1	3	2		6	4		6	2	7	6
Erysipelas ...									1		4	5
Encephalitis Lethargica			1				2					
Chicken-pox ...		2	1	3	2	50	74	9				
Polio - Encephali- tis ...						1		1				
Total ...	6	3	5	6	6	81	93	15	12	2	11	11

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								
1 ...				2				
5 ...	1			1				
10 ...			1					
15 ...	1	1						
20 ...		4		1	1			
25 ...	2	4	1		2			
35 ...	3	6		1		1		
45 ...	2	2						
55 ...	2	2			1			
65 and upwards	1	1			1	1		
Totals ...	12	20	2	5	5	2		

In addition to the above new cases there was one case of Pulmonary, aged 68, which was not notified but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns.

The report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925 is intended to be a survey report and to deal with the measure of progress which has been made during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health and the extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area.

The acreage of the United District has not altered appreciably during the past five years.

The population has, no doubt, steadily increased. The census taken on the 19th June, 1921, showed that the population was 50,110, as compared with 35,862 found at the census of 1911. Owing to the fact that the former census was taken in June and therefore included a number of visitors, whereas the latter census was taken in April, when few visitors were in the district, these two figures cannot really be compared. The population of the United District at the middle of 1921, as estimated by the Registrar-General, was 40,869. At the middle of 1925 was 43,690.

Vital statistics do not show much change. For the year 1921 they were as follows for the United District :—

Birth Rate, 14.6; Death Rate, 10.59; Infant Mortality Rate, 57.

For the year 1925 :—

Birth Rate, 11.55; Death Rate, 11.2; Infant Mortality Rate, 65.

It is an interesting fact that the number of deaths exceeded the number of births in Urban Districts of Broadstairs and St. Peter's and Herne Bay in this year.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified, so far as Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Typhoid Fever are concerned for the five years was as follows :—

			Diphtheria.		Scarlet Fever.		Typhoid Fever.
1921	...	...	154	...	128	...	3
1922	...	...	106	...	114	...	3
1923	...	...	27	...	36	...	—
1924	...	...	16	...	63	...	1
1925	...	...	24	...	64	...	24

Fortunately the United District remained free of Smallpox during the five years.

With regard to the Isolation Hospitals in the United District, the most important matter to mention is that in connection with the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital a medical superintendent was appointed in the year 1922 to reside at the hospital; that three huts were erected to increase the accommodation in 1922; and that a cubicle block to accommodate eight patients was opened in October of 1923.

In the year 1923 four acres of land adjoining the Hospital, together with a bungalow, were purchased by the Board.

As regards the General Hospitals, the Herne Bay Cottage Hospital was enlarged in the year 1923 and the accommodation for patients increased from eleven to fourteen beds.

The Ramsgate General Hospital was enlarged during the year 1925, a children's ward with accommodation for 12 children being added. Other alterations were also made.

The work of the Health Visitors, School Nurses and Tuberculosis Nurses employed by the County Council in the United District was re-organised during the year 1925 in order to give them more time to carry out their duties.

Matters of importance which have been referred to in annual reports of the past five years may be briefly noted.

*In the year 1921.*—A considerable amount of time was occupied by the Medical Officer of Health in dealing with outbreaks of disease in the Herne Bay Urban District and the Isle of Thanet Rural District. Special reports were written to the respective Councils. As a result of the cases which

occurred at St. Anne's Convalescent Home in Herne Bay, the Metropolitan Asylums Board eventually decided to provide an observation ward at the convalescent home in the year 1925, and it is hoped that the increased facilities thus provided will, by isolating cases with doubtful symptoms in the early stages, prevent the spread of disease.

The outbreak of infectious disease which occurred in the Isle of Thanet Rural District and in the Borough of Ramsgate in the year 1921 had the effect of proving to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board the need for providing more accommodation in their institution.

*In the year 1922.*—The outbreak of Diphtheria at Birchington and Acol and St. Lawrence Extra, in the Isle of Thanet Rural District, continued during the early part of the year, and in April a report was made to the Rural District Council on the need of a scheme of sewerage for the parish of Birchington being considered. In September of this year an important Act, namely, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, came into force. This was of considerable importance to the two rural districts owing to the number of cowkeepers who make their living in these districts. During the year, both the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Isle of Thanet Rural District Council had under consideration the use by butchers of the humane killer in the slaughter-houses of the districts. The Herne Bay Council did not decide to proceed further with the matter and the Isle of Thanet Council decided not to enforce their bye-law.

*In the year 1923.*—Owing to the prevalence of Smallpox in England and Wales, the Medical Officer of Health considered it advisable to recommend the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council and the Thanet Rural District Council to add Chicken-pox to the list of notifiable diseases in their districts, and this was done in July; and also to obtain more power to deal with an outbreak of Smallpox should one arise, the Thanet Rural District Council and the Blean Rural District Council, on his recommendation, applied to the Minister of Health for orders putting into force Part IV. of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, in their districts. This part of the Act was already in force in the two Urban Districts. In this year the Minister of Health altered the percentage of contributions paid by the four constituent authorities to the Joint Hospital Board of the Isle of Thanet and also increased the number of members representing the Borough of Margate by two.

In August the Medical Officer of Health read a special report to the Public Health Committee of the Herne Bay Urban District Council with regard to the isolation hospital accommodation of that district. A deputation from the Birchington Parish Council attended the meeting of the Thanet Rural District Council in January to discuss the question of the sewerage of the village, and in February the Sanitary Inspector presented a report on the sanitary conditions of Birchington, the result being that since then many privies and pail closets in that parish have been converted into W.C.'s. In December of that year a Ministry of Health enquiry was held to consider an application from the Blean Rural District Council to borrow £3,000 for sewerage works in the parish of Swalecliffe which were badly needed but have not yet been constructed. The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council held a special meeting in July to discuss with their consulting engineer the sewerage of the Kingsgate and Westwood portions of their district. During the summer, complaints were made from the residents of Birchington of the smell arising from decomposing seaweed on the foreshore. The matter was considered by the District Council. The Thanet Rural District Council, in order to deal with the offensive trade of fish frier in Birchington and Westgate, and to deal with the removal of trade refuse in Westgate, applied to the Ministry of Health for urban powers, which were granted. The unsatisfactory removal of house refuse in Birchington and the depositing of refuse in the Blean Rural District by the Whitstable Urban District Council necessitated action being taken.

The Herne Bay Urban District Council during the year, with the sanction of the Minister of Health, made bye-laws for offensive trades.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Water Bill was before the Houses of Parliament during the year, and as a result the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923, received the Royal Assent on the 2nd August. Its provisions are chiefly those connected with the supply of water to the Urban District by means of an agreement with the Corporation of Margate. The Act also contains Infectious Disease and sanitary Provisions, etc.

*In the year 1924.*—The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in the United District was small. Smallpox continued to be prevalent in many parts of England and Wales. Fortunately the United District remained free of this disease. The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council resolved to continue the notification of Chicken-pox in their district from September 29th for a further period of 12 months. In September the Medical Officer of Health read a special report to the Public Health Committee of the Herne Bay Urban District Council with regard to the isolation hospital accommodation of that district, and he also reported to the Blean Rural District Council on the same subject. In July, in his quarterly report to the Rural District Council, he commented on the methods of house refuse in Birchington. At the August meeting at the request of the Parochial Committee, the Council resolved to appoint the Sanitary Inspector to control the scavenging of Birchington. The Sanitary Inspector was able during the year to bring about the conversion of 24 privies and pail closets into W.C.'s in this village. Improvements in the conditions under which milk is produced continued to be made under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors. Nuisances in connection with gipsies encamped at Camden Road, Reading Street, St. Peter's, necessitated legal proceedings being taken by the Urban District Council, as in 1923. Complaints were made during the summer with regard to the smell of decomposing seaweed on the shore at Birchington, and at the meeting of the Thanet Rural District Council in June it was resolved that the Parochial Committee should remove the seaweed when it accumulated, the cost of doing so being a charge on the parish. Ministry of Health enquiries were held at Herne Bay in April and at Westgate in June, in both instances for sanction for loans in part for public conveniences.

*In the year 1925.*—Important regulations made by the Minister of Health entitled the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 came into force on the first day of April. They would have had a more beneficial effect than they have had if Circular 604 had not been issued by the Minister of Health whereby they were to a certain extent modified. The Rural District Councils (Slaughter Houses) Order 1924 came into force on the 1st January 1925. Its object was to give to Rural District Councils the same powers as Urban Authorities have relating to slaughter houses. On the 1st July the Housing Act 1925 came into force. It is chiefly intended to replace the Housing Acts of 1909 and 1919 and gives increased powers to County Councils to act where local authorities have failed to make closing orders or demolition orders. The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act 1915 came into force on the 1st September. It gives local authorities more power to deal with milk likely to cause tuberculosis.

On September 30th the Medical Officer of Health attended as a delegate from the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council a conference convened by the County Council at the Sessions House, Maidstone, which was also attended by members representing the four Councils, to discuss the question of the treatment of crippled children in the county.

Numerous complaints were received during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and the sanitary inspector with regard to nuisances caused by overflowing cesspools in certain parts of the Blean Rural District.

On December 7th the Medical Officer of Health attended a conference held at the Blean Poor Law Institution to discuss the formation of a Joint Hospital Board for the three districts of Blean, Herne Bay and Whitstable. Representatives of the Councils of the two last-named districts met members of the Blean Rural District Council and considered the matter. During the year the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 came into force. Their object is to prevent a person suffering from Tuberculosis of the lungs carrying on any employment in connection with the handling of milk. The Tuberculosis Orders of 1925 dated July 13th and August 15th also came into force. They deal with the slaughtering of animals suffering with tuberculosis and precautions to be adopted with respect to milk, etc.

The Public Health Act 1925, parts 2, 3 and 4 of which are adoptive, gives additional powers to local authorities.

The water supply of the village of Sarre has been under the consideration of the Isle of Thanet Rural District Council during the year and communications have been addressed to the Corporation of Margate. The matter was mentioned by the Medical Officer of Health in his quarterly report to the Council in April and in July. There were complaints of a shortage of water in the dry summer of 1921. Certain insanitary conditions exist in this village which cannot be dealt with satisfactorily unless a public water supply is provided. It is very unfortunate that the village cannot be connected with the Margate Corporation main without the expenditure of a large sum of money. Undoubtedly the cheapest method of providing water would be by the adoption of a scheme which was proposed in August by the chief land owner of the village. Owing to the fact that the reports on the examination of samples of water from certain wells have proved unsatisfactory and in order to provide better sanitary conveniences for certain of the inhabitants it is very desirable that steps be taken to provide Sarre with an adequate supply of wholesome water.

The condition of the private streets in the parish of Birchington has been the subject of many complaints, particularly in the winter time and the Thanet Rural District Council have on several occasions been in communication with the Minister of Health with regard to power being given to enable the Council to adopt the Private Streets Works Act 1892 for the parish of Birchington. As a result an enquiry was held by a Medical Officer and an Engineer Inspector of the Ministry at Birchington on the 17th July and after they had reported to the Minister of Health a letter was received from him by the Council in September to the effect that he would not sanction the adoption by the Council of the Private Streets Works Act for the parish owing to the fact that a sewerage scheme was not in existence. It was resolved at the meeting of the Rural District Council that a deputation should attend at the Ministry of Health in order to explain the position.

As a result of correspondence which took place between the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Herne Bay Waterworks Company during the years 1924 and 1925 the company spent a considerable sum of money in enlarging the adits, cleaning out the well and in other ways improving the water supply.

The Pegwell Bay (Shell-fish) Regulations 1925, dated October 9th, 1925 were made by the Minister of Health under Sec. 130 of the Public Health Act 1875. The chief provision is as follows:—"A person shall not sell, distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any cockles taken from within the prescribed area unless and until they have been subjected to a process of sterilisation by steaming under pressure for at least six minutes."

The prescribed area means so much of the foreshore as lies between the common boundary of the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's and the Borough of Ramsgate and the common boundary of the Rural District of Eastry and the Borough of Deal.

Other matters which have been dealt with in the previous five years.

*In the year 1921.*—In the Blean Rural District 45 houses were connected with the public water mains. A sewer was constructed in a private street at Beltinge and five houses were connected to it. The area scavenged in St. Stephen's parish was extended so as to include St. Stephen's Road and the thirteen houses known as Cotton Mill Row. Improvements were carried out in various cowsheds and also in two slaughter-houses.

In the Isle of Thanet Rural District some extension of existing sewers was made in Westgate. Arrangements made for more frequent removal of house refuse in the village of Minster during the summer and scavenging of the outlying portion of the parish of Garlinge undertaken. A cowkeeper was licenced to produce Grade A milk and a retailer to sell it.

*In the year 1922.*—A short extension of the sewers was made in Westgate-on-Sea. In Broadstairs three roads were sewered, and the question of improving the method of dealing with house refuse on salvage lines or by means of a destructor was under the consideration of the Council. An improvement in the handling of refuse at the tip was effected.

*In the year 1923.*—About 200 yards of new sewer was laid in Westgate. It was reported that a portion of the parish of Swalecliffe, in the Blean Rural District, urgently required sewerage.

*In the year 1924.*—The Ramsgate Corporation laid a water main from the boundary of the Rural District to Manston, in the Isle of Thanet Rural District. The length of this main being about 2,000 yards. The Urban District Council of Broadstairs adopted a scheme for sewerage part of the Urban District and the construction of a screening chamber at the outfall. In this year the unsatisfactory method of dealing with house refuse in the Herne Bay Urban District was noted. Three private streets at Beltinge, in the Blean Rural District, were provided with sewers. A small extension of the sewer in Albion Lane, Herne, was made. During the year arrangements were made for the removal of house refuse from about 80 additional houses in the parish of Sturry. Complaints were made of nuisances caused by the deposit of house refuse in the Blean Rural District by the Whitstable Urban District Council.

*In the year 1925.*—Legal proceedings were taken by the Herne Bay Urban District Council in one case against a tradesman for failing to furnish a sink and water supply at a retail fish shop. The magistrates made an order for the work to be carried out in 14 days, with part payment of costs. Legal proceedings were taken by the Thanet Rural District Council in the case of a cowkeeper who was convicted and fined 2 guineas and 3 guineas costs for selling milk adulterated with 8.1 per cent added water. In the Blean Rural District proceedings were taken by the Council against an owner under Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878. Defendant pleaded guilty. Justices made an order for a supply of water to be laid on from the main, which was done.

On October 28th an Inspector of the Ministry of Health held an enquiry into an application made by the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council for sanction to borrow £5,476 for the purpose of their water undertaking.

#### HOUSING.

The housing of the working class in the United District has caused considerable anxiety during the last five years owing to the fact that sufficient

houses have not been erected by private enterprise to replace those which are in a state unfit for habitation, and to provide homes for persons living under conditions of overcrowding. Owing to the shortage of houses, Councils have hesitated to make closing orders.

The following houses have been erected by Local Authorities :—

*In the year 1921* the Isle of Thanet Rural District Council built 12 houses in pairs at Manston.

*In the year 1922* the Blean Rural District Council built 10 houses in pairs in the parish of Herne.

*In the year 1924* the Herne Bay Urban District Council built 12 houses in pairs opposite the public park.

*In the year 1925* the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council commenced to erect 44 houses, 4 blocks of 8, and two block of 6, near Beacon Road.

The number of houses built in the four districts during the last five years is as follows :—

1921.

Blean R.D. ... ..	56
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	27
Isle of Thanet R.D. ... ..	48
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	31

1922.

Blean R.D. ... ..	77
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	31
Isle of Thanet R.D. ... ..	40
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	56

1923.

Blean R.D. ... ..	131	(including 30 by the Chislet Colliery Co.)
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	60	
Isle of Thanet R.D. ... ..	96	
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	95	

1924.

Blean R.D. ... ..	83
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	76
Isle of Thanet R.D. ... ..	84
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	121

1925.

Blean R.D. ... ..	116	(including 20 by the Chislet Colliery Co.)
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	92	
Isle of Thanet R.D. ... ..	73	
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	95	

The number of houses which have been erected in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District during the years 1923, 1924 and 1925 :—

			Number of houses with			Total.
			5 rooms or less.	6, 7 or 8 rooms.	9 to 12 rooms.	
1923	...	...	34	58	3	95
1924	...	...	40	74	7	121
1925	...	...	46	44	5	95

As regards the future, it would appear that the following public health matters will require the consideration of the four Local Authorities.

*The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council.*

The provision of a new steam disinfecter. An improved method of dealing with house refuse. The sewerage of the Westwood and North Foreland portions of the district. The provision of houses for the working class.

*The Herne Bay Urban District Council.*

Adequate isolation hospital accommodation. A satisfactory method of dealing with house refuse. The provision of houses for the working class. The erection of a steam disinfecter, preferably in conjunction with the Blean Rural District Council.

*The Isle of Thanet Rural District Council.*

A public water supply for the parish of Sarre. The sewerage of the parish of Birchington. The provision of houses for the working class.

*The Blean Rural District Council.*

A public water supply for the parish of Blean. The sewerage of the parish of Sturry, part of the parish of Chislet, and other portions of the Rural District. Alterations and additions to the Isolation Hospital. A motor ambulance for removing cases of infectious disease. The provision of houses for the working class.

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